



## REVIEW

# VACCINATION FOR ALL IN ITALY, TOO

A vaccination center in the outskirts of Padua managed by Cuamm with the AULSS 6 and the Diocese, created within a broader Covid-19 response program, where the effort, in Italy and Africa, is to bring prevention and treatment to all on the strength of the contribution of volunteer staff.

TEXT BY / ANDREA ATZORI / DOCTORS WITH AFRICA CUAMM

The Cuamm vaccination center is the first center in the Veneto Region managed by an NGO in partnership with AULSS 6 and the Diocese of Padua. The initiative was launched to support the national vaccination campaign with smaller centers as well, located in densely populated areas on major thoroughfares. The center was created by reconfiguring the spaces of the former middle school of the Rubano seminary, and it follows the operational standards of AULSS6, which supervises its work.

The center's operations are in 4 macro-areas: 1) booking system, 2) vaccine management, 3) vaccination, 4) booster management.

- 1. The booking system**, like other vaccination hubs, is managed by AULSS6 and allows all people who have a tax code to book vaccination through a dedicated site. Availability varies according to the days, times, and the number of vaccine lines that Cuamm makes available. Right now, the center is open 7 days a week with 6-hour (Monday-Friday) and 12-hour (Saturday and Sunday) vaccination sessions in the afternoon. The center can open up to 4 vaccination lines with a reservation every 6 minutes, or up to 240 reservations for a 6-hour shift, or 480 for a 12-hour shift.
- 2. The vaccine is managed** through the AULSS6 system. On the basis of reservations, a quantity of doses is ordered each day, stored in the center at temperatures from 4-8 degrees Celsius. The stored vaccine is then prepared for vaccination following the preparation or dilution protocols for each different type of vaccine.
- 3. Vaccination** is the most operational aspect and is carried out through the set of non-healthcare activities (reception service, management of user flows, etc.), and healthcare activities (vaccination lines).
  - Non-health-care aspects are essential to allow the center to function safely. These include managing the flow of incoming/outgoing patients, verifying reservations, social distancing, and the presence or absence of accompanying persons. These activities are managed by Cuamm volun-

teers, 7 on average per shift, placed in various locations such as main entrance, triage, pre-vaccine waiting room, and post-vaccine room and exit.

- The healthcare area mainly consists of two activities: vaccine preparation and vaccination lines. The former takes place in a dedicated, aseptic area and is managed by medical and nursing staff. Here, according to standard procedures, the individual doses are prepared and then brought to the vaccination lines in the timeframes, methods, and quantities needed to support the expected pace of vaccination. The vaccine lines are where vaccination takes place. Each line has 4 phases: medical history to identify risks related to allergies, pre-existing diseases, or other issues; data entry into the regional system (SIAVR); vaccination; second shot booking and/or printing of the vaccination certificate. Each line has a volunteer doctor, an administrative employee for data management and, when available, a nurse for vaccination. One or more nurses or doctors prepare the vaccines.

- 4. Management of bookings for second doses.** Depending on the vaccine, each user receives booster options immediately after their first vaccination. The system works so that during the same vaccination session, people are received for the first dose (see point 1) and for the second shot. The combination of the two user flows requires keeping the center open and the minimum number of vaccination lines to provide vaccinations or boosters on schedule.

The vaccination center has been operational since June 12, and through today, it operated non-stop 7 days a week, distributing more than 11.000 vaccines, thanks to the support of 169 volunteers (69 health workers and 100 non-health workers) for a total of 3.500 hours of voluntary service.

The vaccination center is part of Cuamm's broader effort to vaccinate everyone, especially in Africa where today only 1% of the population is vaccinated. This is a major failing that must be addressed to stop the pandemic, in the awareness that either we are all vaccinated and safe or none of us will truly be safe.