

# HealthPartners

## Vaccine Distribution & Equity

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## Health Plan

Nearly 1.8 million members

## Care System

More than 1.2 million medical & dental patients

### Care Group

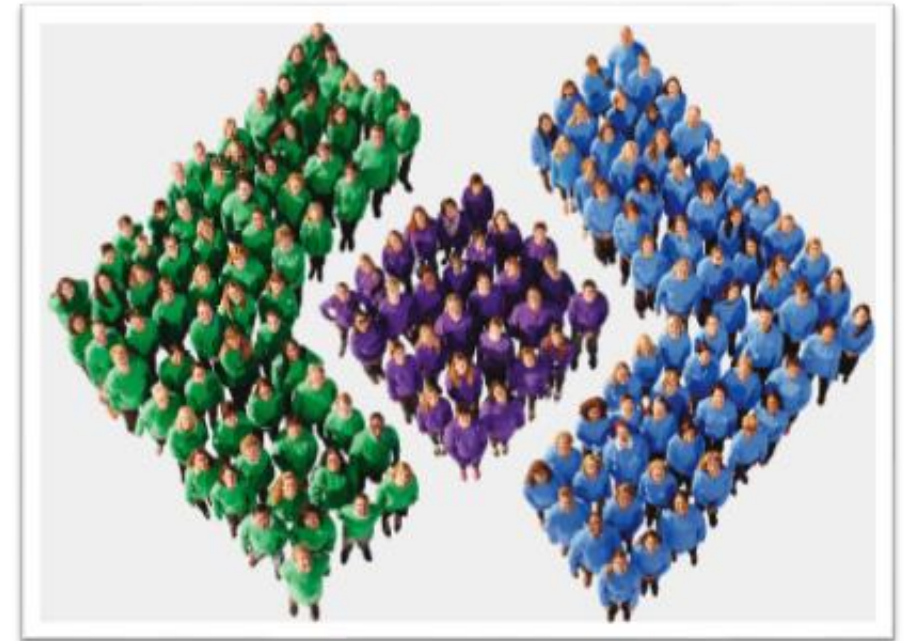
55+ Medical Clinics  
1,800 physicians  
900 clinicians  
55 specialties

### Dental Group

25 Dental Clinics  
77 dentists

### 8 Hospitals

Twin Cities  
Western Wisconsin



## Research & Education

The HealthPartners Institute conducts hundreds of research studies annually while providing education and training for medical students, clinicians and patients.

# Vaccine Eligibility

- Statewide vaccine coordination with coalition of 10 health care systems working closely with the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Primary focus is vaccinating patients
  - Visit in any setting during the last 36 months, including flu shots, emergency room visits and COVID testing.
  - Started with 75+year old patients, moved to 70+ and then 65+
  - Currently planning for <65 with chronic conditions and caregivers
- Also vaccinating our health care workers as well as unaffiliated health care workers
- [Vaccine Connector / COVID-19 Updates and Information - State of Minnesota \(mn.gov\)](#)

# Vaccine Distribution

## Vaccine Site Selection

- Geographic coverage
  - High volume sites
  - Drive-through options
- Accessibility by public transportation  
Convenient parking, easily accessible within building

## Current locations

- Regions Hospital (east metro)
  - Woodbury clinic (east metro)
  - Lakeview Hospital (east metro)
  - Bloomington drive-up (east/west metro)
  - Methodist Hospital (west metro)
  - Maple Grove Clinic (west metro)
  - Hutchinson Hospital (west metro)
  - Olivia Hospital (west metro)
  - Home Care (metro wide)
- \*Additional vaccine clinic locations in Western Wisconsin facilities. Plans in place for expansion when vaccine supply increases

**We've administered  
100,000 + vaccinations  
as of last week**

# Vaccine Safety

- Clinician champions are helping us understand and address vaccine hesitancy and barriers.
- Building on prior experience with COVID-19 Vaccine Trial
  - AstraZeneca/Oxford University vaccine
  - 30,000 volunteers enrolled across U.S.
  - 804 volunteers enrolled at HealthPartners
  - Focused on people at higher risk
    - Close-contact professions
    - High-risk health conditions
    - Communities of Color
  - 30% of HealthPartners participants are people of color



# Vaccine Safety



“As a Hmong woman and doctor, I recognized months ago that my patients might be hesitant to get the vaccine. So I started talking with my patients of color well before the vaccine was available. Providing information in an empathetic and understanding way has been critical.”

-Yeng Yang, MD, Chair of HealthPartners Equity, Inclusion + Anti-Racism Cabinet

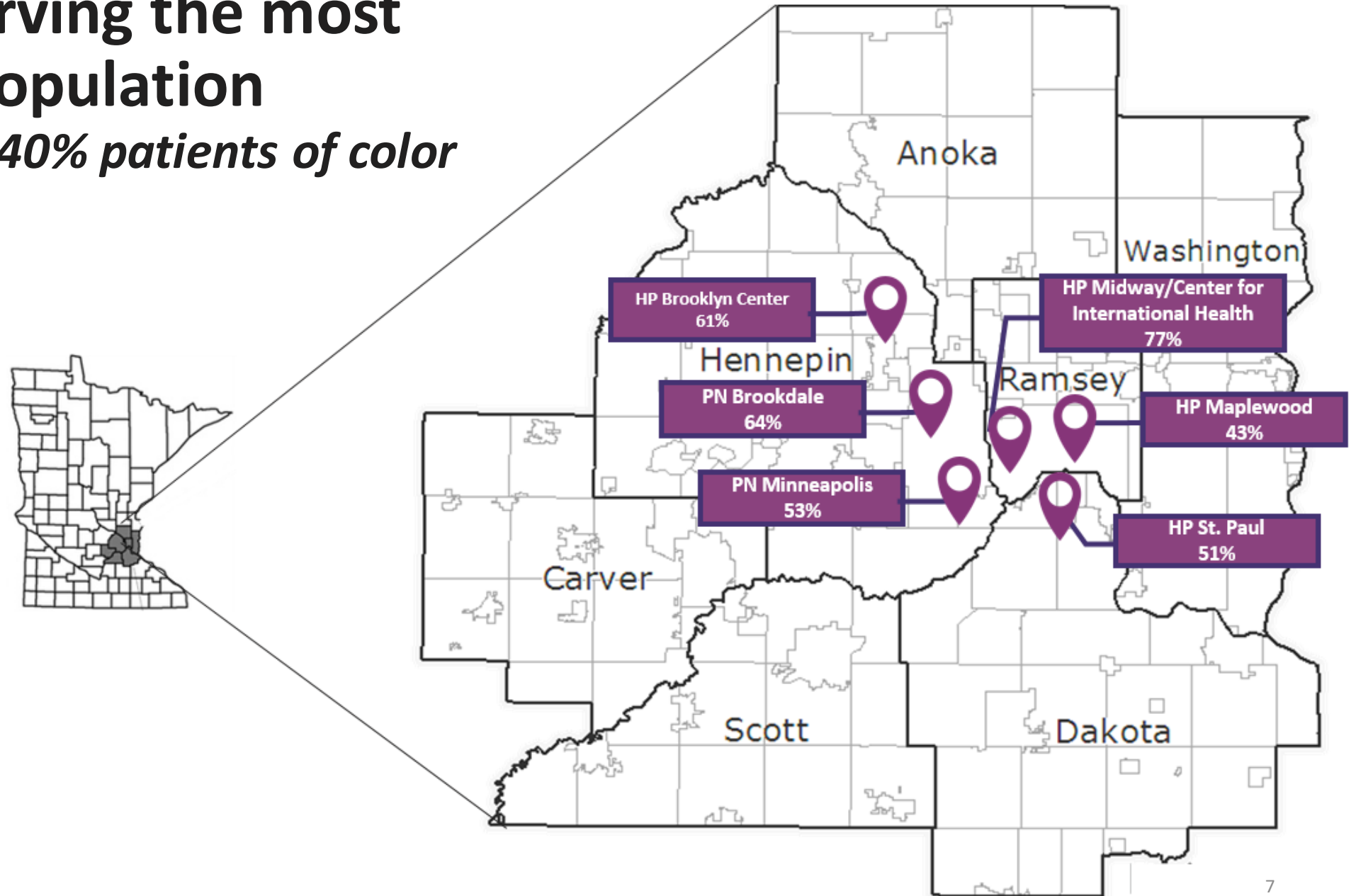
“These vaccines are 30 years of research coming to fruition, put together by diverse teams. The clinical trials involved tens of thousands of people, including those of diverse backgrounds, races, ages, gender and those with other ailments. I see this as a way out of the pandemic. I trust the science and know that it will save lives. That’s why I got the COVID-19 vaccine.

-Benji Mathews, MD, HealthPartners Medical Director



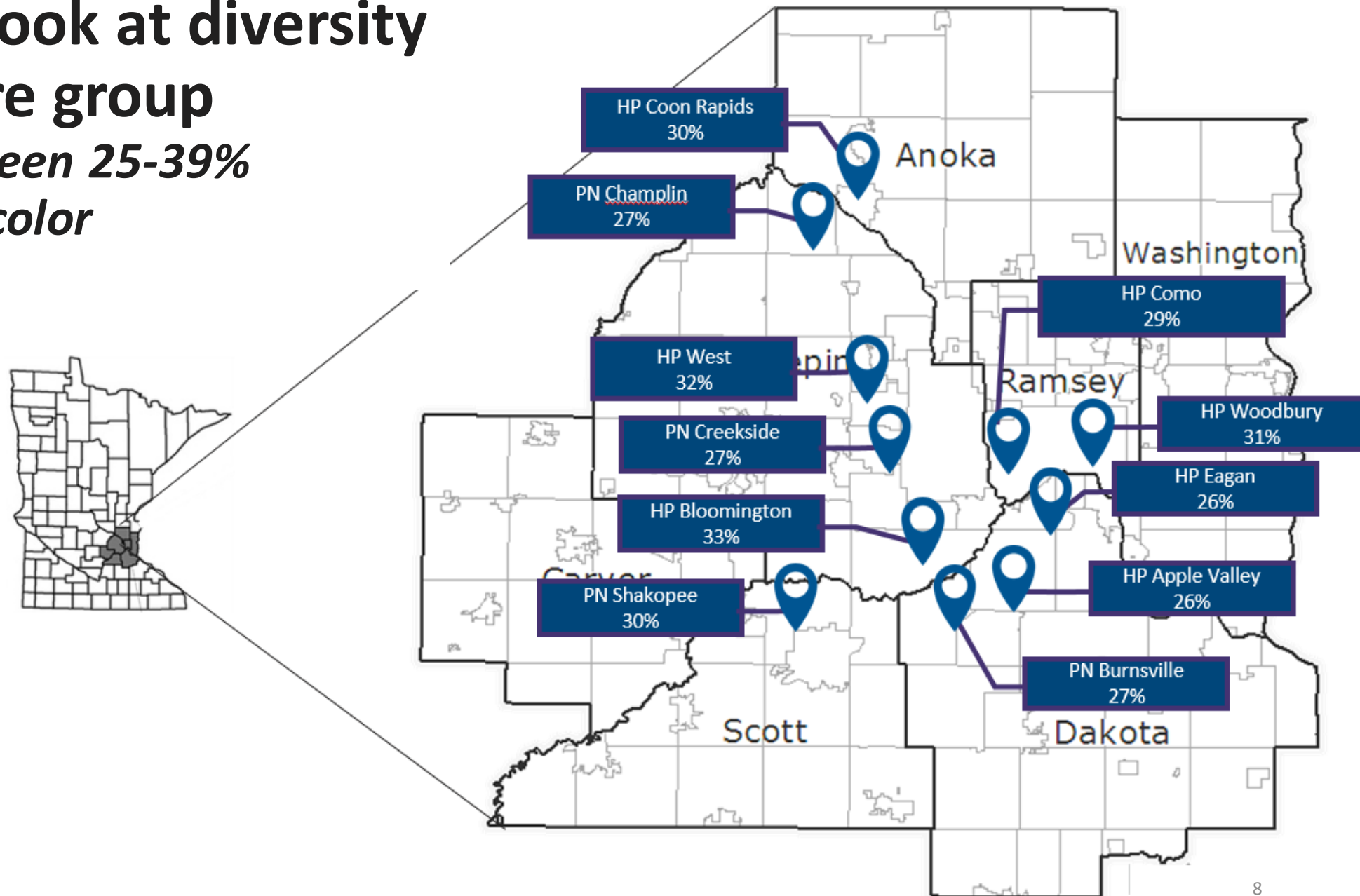
# Clinics serving the most diverse population

*Clinics over 40% patients of color*



# Broader look at diversity in our care group

*Clinics between 25-39%  
patients of color*





# Vaccine Equity-reducing disparities

- Using patients' preferred method of communication (email/text/phone) and language
  - *Sending out text invitations translated in Spanish, Hmong and Somali which has led to a higher response rate*
- Use of interpreters during outreach and at vaccine locations
- Vaccine educational materials also translated into multiple languages
- Telephonic outreach with designated call back numbers for Somali, Vietnamese, Spanish and Hmong patients if we need to leave messages
- Holding vaccine slots for patients who require more time to make a decision to schedule
- Assistance with transportation
- Saturday vaccine hours

**120% increase in  
vaccination rates for  
patients of color**

# Community Partnerships

- “Clinician Speakers Bureau” to address hesitancy in the communities we serve – trusted messengers
- Exploring partnerships with Ramsey County and other community groups, including faith communities. Offering support with education and volunteers for mobile vaccine clinics.

# Making it simple

When Barbara Smith, an 80-year-old St. Paul resident, learned that appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine were available for her and others in her age group, she was excited and relieved.

Now, she's sharing her experience of getting vaccinated at Regions Hospital with friends and neighbors who are skeptical about vaccinations.



**“I don’t know a lot about science and research but I do trust the experts as well as my HealthPartners doctors who advised me to have the vaccine.”**