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Amida Care Commends Governor Cuomo for Including People Living with HIV in Expedited COVID-19 Vaccine Access

(New York, NY) - Doug Wirth, President & CEO of Amida Care, New York's largest not-for-profit Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan (SNP), issued the following statement thanking Governor Andrew Cuomo for expanding New York State COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to people living with comorbidities, including HIV:

"Governor Cuomo is right to prioritize people with comorbidities and chronic conditions like HIV for vaccination. Sound public policy becomes possible when sound scientific data drives decisions by leaders. Multiple studies have shown that New Yorkers living with HIV are more likely to need to be hospitalized and die if they get COVID. We commend Governor Cuomo and express deep appreciation to the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute's leadership for their expedited research that led to action in New York State by including people living with HIV in expedited vaccine access. This is yet another example of New York's leadership in ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic while also addressing a pandemic. We thank you all for the role you've played in this announcement and the service to our communities, and encourage all eligible at-risk New Yorkers to get vaccinated."

About Amida Care
Amida Care Inc. is a not-for-profit health plan that specializes in providing comprehensive health coverage and coordinated care to New Yorkers with complex conditions, including HIV and behavioral health disorders, and people who are of transgender experience or who are homeless (regardless of HIV status). Amida Care has a wide network of health care providers throughout New York City and is the largest Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan (SNP) in New York State. For more information, visit www.amidacareny.org.