

COVID-19 Vaccine - Primary Care Prioritization

Authorized Age Groups for Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

- Individuals **18 years of age and older** without contraindication to the vaccine.

Authorized Age Groups for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

- Individuals **12 years of age and older** without contraindication to the vaccine.

Authorized Age Groups for AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine (second doses only)

- Authorized by Health Canada for use in individuals **18 years of age and older** without contraindication.
- Recommended by [NACI](#) for use in individuals **30 years of age and older** without contraindication.

Interchangeability of COVID-19 Vaccines and Second Dose Interval

- **1st Dose AstraZeneca Vaccine:**
 - Individuals who received the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine for their first dose may receive either an AstraZeneca or mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) for their second dose unless contraindicated.
 - Second doses of the AstraZeneca or mRNA vaccine may be administered at an 8 to 12 week interval with informed consent to rostered patients (and non-rostered patients who received a first dose of AstraZeneca through the clinic), in alignment with [Provincial Direction](#).
- **1st Dose mRNA Vaccine:**
 - Individuals who received an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) for their first dose may receive the same or different mRNA vaccine product to complete their vaccine series. While it is preferable for individuals to receive the same mRNA vaccine product to complete their series, second doses should not be significantly delayed in order to complete a vaccine series using the same mRNA vaccine, unless clinically indicated.
 - Second doses of an mRNA vaccine may be administered to rostered patients at a 21-day interval for Pfizer or a 28-day interval for Moderna. If a different vaccine product is used to complete the vaccine series, use the authorized interval in the product monograph for the first vaccine product given (i.e. 21 days for Pfizer and 28 days for Moderna). Please prioritize second doses for rostered patients using the chart below.
- To prevent vaccine wastage, second doses for non-rostered patients may be provided at the interval authorized by the most recent [Provincial Second Dose Eligibility](#).
- Patients who received their first dose through another channel may receive their second dose through their primary care provider.

Youth Immunization Program (ages 12-25)

- **Youth aged 12 to 17** are eligible to receive two doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at an interval of +/- 56 days by the end of August, dependent on supply. (must be born in 2009 and have had their 12th birthday on or before the date of the first dose appointment)
- **Youth aged 18 to 25** are eligible to receive two doses of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at an interval of +/- 56 days by the end of August, dependent on supply.

Note: please confirm that persons vaccinated in primary care do not already have an appointment booked at another clinic or pharmacy. If they do, please have the person cancel the appointment promptly, so that it can be offered to another person. For Halton Region Public Health and Hospital clinics this can be done [online](#) or by calling 311.

Persons eligible for a shortened interval as of June 14th, 2021:

- Individuals aged 70 and over
- Individuals who received their first dose on or before May 9, 2021
- Individuals with the following health conditions or treatments:
 - Solid organ transplant recipients
 - Hematopoietic stem cell transplant recipients
 - Malignant hematologic disorders receiving active treatment (examples: chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy), excluding individuals receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy
 - Malignant non-hematologic solid tumors receiving active treatment (examples: chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy), excluding individuals receiving solely receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy
 - Individuals undergoing hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
 - Individuals receiving treatment with an anti-CD20 agent (e.g. rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab)
- Staff, residents, and designated essential caregivers from:
 - Long-term care homes
 - Retirement homes
 - Assisted living facilities
 - Congregate living settings for seniors
- Indigenous Peoples (including First Nations, Inuit, and Metis populations) and all immediate household members
- [Highest-priority health care workers](#)
- Workers responding to critical events as part of their regular duties (as per highest-priority health care workers):
 - ORNGE
 - Paramedics
 - Firefighters providing medical first response
 - Police and special constables providing medical first response