

## COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE #22 FROM HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

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TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments, Pharmacists

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: March 22, 2021

RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Update 22: Healthcare Town Hall Wednesday, extended dose patient messaging, updated Healthcare Provider patient toolkit for promoting COVID-19 immunization

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### QUICK FACTS

- [Register today](#) for this Wednesday's Healthcare Professional Town Hall hosted by Halton Region Public Health, March 24 from 5-6 p.m.
- Halton Region Public Health is mandated to follow the guidance outlined by the Chief Medical Officer of Ontario to extend the interval between first and second doses to 16 weeks. Those living in long-term care homes, retirement residences or Elder lodges will continue to receive their second dose at 21 to 27 days. There are currently no other exceptions, based on occupation or health status.
- Providing a first dose of vaccine to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible will save lives and prevent hospitalization. Please do not provide notes for your patients or ask them to call Public Health to receive a shortened interval.
- The Ontario College of Family Physicians has prepared some [suggested patient messaging on extended dose timing](#) that you may find useful to answer patient concerns.
- Halton Region Public Health has updated the [Healthcare Provider patient toolkit](#) which includes a variety of print and digital materials to help promote COVID-19 immunization to include the new eligible populations, including:
  - **Halton residents who are 75 years of age and older**
  - **Indigenous adults 55 years of age and older who live in Halton**
- To inform the Indigenous COVID-19 vaccine roll out, staff consulted with Indigenous communities and organizations to solicit guidance on how best to implement the recommendations provided by the Provincial Urban Indigenous Vaccine Distribution Sub-Tables.

### OUTREACH MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE

- The following materials are either attached or available to download at a [shared folder/BOX drive](#):
  - Newsletter or email content; phone script and auto-attendant greeting
  - [Video explaining what to expect at a COVID-19 vaccination clinic](#)
  - Social media image
  - [COVID-19 vaccine clinic promotional registration postcard PDF](#) (available to order in print free of charge – great for pharmacists to include in medication bags)
  - Vaccine fact sheet PDF (available to order in print free of charge)
  - Post-vaccination fact sheet PDF (available to order in print free of charge)
  - Car travel guidelines PDF (available to order in print free of charge)
- **Order print materials using our [online order form](#).** The materials will be mailed directly to you and should arrive within 7 days. Translated materials are in development.
- Eligibility criteria will be expanded as more supply arrives and provincial direction is received. Public Health will communicate updates through multiple channels. Please be prepared to update this information.

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES – IF YOU CAN'T ACCESS HYPERLINKS OR DIDN'T RECEIVE IN FULL, PLEASE EMAIL [DOCTORS@HALTON.CA](mailto:DOCTORS@HALTON.CA) FOR ELECTRONIC COPY.