

## COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE #8 FROM HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

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TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments

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

DATE: February 11, 2021

RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Update 8: Vaccine supply, CME and second dose timing

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### QUICK FACTS

- As of February 9, 5,465 LTC/ RH residents, 627 LTC/RH staff and 56 essential caregivers received vaccine through mobile clinics run by Public Health, Paramedics and Halton Healthcare.
- Currently only LTC/RH residents will be receiving first doses. Staff and essential caregivers who missed first dose may be placed on a stand-by list contingent on vaccine supply.
- Vaccine supply for February 15 is still uncertain. This is the supply that would enable us to re-open new first doses for LTC/RH staff and caregivers.

### JOIN US FOR LOCAL COVID-19 WEBINAR UPDATE (CME) ON WED., FEB. 17 AT 7 P.M.

- You're invited to a webinar "Public Health Updates for Halton Physicians: Focus on COVID-19 vaccination" on Thursday, February 17 from 7-8 p.m. Given the importance and interest in this topic, we are extending the event past 8 p.m. for a Healthcare Professional Town Hall with an extended Q&A portion. The second hour is completely optional and not related to Mainpro+ accredited CME from 7-8.
- Please feel free to invite your colleagues through the [registration form](#) or at [halton.ca/physicians](http://halton.ca/physicians)

### HOW DOES TIMING OF THE SECOND DOSE OF COVID-19 VACCINE IMPACT EFFECTIVENESS?

- When supply is limited, [NACI recommends](#) that second doses may be delayed up to 42 days after the first.
- Studies by [Public Health England](#) and the [Quebec Public Health Institute \(Institut national de santé publique du Québec\)](#) estimate the first dose efficacy of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to be 89% (95% confidence interval (CI): 52-97) and 92% (95%CI: 69-98) 14 days after dose 1 respectively.
- Both studies indicate that the [New England Journal of Medicine \(NEJM\) Pfizer vaccine article](#) underestimated the first dose efficacy at 52%(96%CI: 30 to 68), as the NEJM article included COVID-19 infections occurring in the first 10 days after the first dose, an interval within which this dose would not be expected to have had an effect (i.e. prior to the recipient mounting an immune response). Full protection (about 95%) starts at about 1 week after the second dose. If the second Pfizer-BioNTech dose is delayed beyond 21 days after the first dose, the first dose efficacy is still expected to be maintained until 42 days. As well, it is still expected that the second dose will give close to the full protection.

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.