

COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE #4 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: January 6, 2021

RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Update #4: Eligibility for Pfizer Vaccine, Resources for patients

QUICK FACTS

- A small amount of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine is currently available through clinics provided by Halton Healthcare at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.
- At this time, vaccine is available to staff at Long Term Care and Retirement Homes, along with other critical healthcare workers. This includes physicians and other health care practitioners who regularly and frequently attend those facilities.
- If you believe you are eligible, please reach out to the director of care of the facility for additional information.
- Essential caregivers at LTCH/RR will be eligible for immunization on January 7. Essential caregivers will receive instructions from their associated LTCH/RR with how to book an appointment at the Hospital Clinic at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. They must present their completed designation form at their appointment.
- Public Health has adjusted the eligibility criteria for facilities in outbreak and certain facilities with small, contained outbreaks are able proceed with staff COVID-19 vaccination. These facilities have been notified and staff should contact their Director of Care with any questions.

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Protocols for safely moving the Pfizer vaccine may soon be available. The Moderna Vaccine is not yet available in Halton.
- Once a portable vaccine is available, immunization clinics for residents of LTC will need to proceed quickly. Health Department staff are preparing to immunize the residents of Long-Term Care Facilities on-site in January, with the second dose offered in February.
- Halton Region Public Health is working with regulated and unregulated health profession associations (including physicians, nurses, physician assistants and more) to compile information needed for Halton health professionals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine once the province issues the prioritization guidelines.
- If you are interested in providing COVID-19 vaccinations when the time comes for a broader, community roll-out, please email doctors@halton.ca.

COVID-19 AEFI REPORTING FOR PHYSICIANS

- If your patient has developed any adverse reaction after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, please:
 - Fill out the [new reporting form](#) and report to Public Health right away by calling 311.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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 FOR ELECTRONIC COPY.

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Tool](#), Centre for Effective Practice, includes information about roll-out
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Adverse Effects Following Immunization](#), Ministry of Health
- [Adverse Events of Special Interest \(AESIs\) for COVID-19 Vaccine Surveillance](#), Public Health Ontario
- [COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario](#), Government of Ontario
- [COVID-19 vaccine in Halton](#), Halton Region