











# Agenda

Time	Focus
7:00-7:15	Local update on COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in Halton – Dr. Hamidah Meghani, Halton Region's Medical Officer of Health
7:15-7:45	Keynote address on vaccine hesitancy, safety and communications – Dr. Noni MacDonald
7:45-8:00	Q&A on vaccine hesitancy and communications
8:00	Official Mainpro+ accredited CME concludes
8:00-9:00	Q&A Healthcare Professional Town Hall on Halton Region Public Health's COVID-19 vaccine roll-out — join us if you have questions that weren't answered in the earlier presentation — Dr. Hamidah Meghani, Dr. Joanna Oda and Dr. Deepika Lobo, Halton Region Public Health

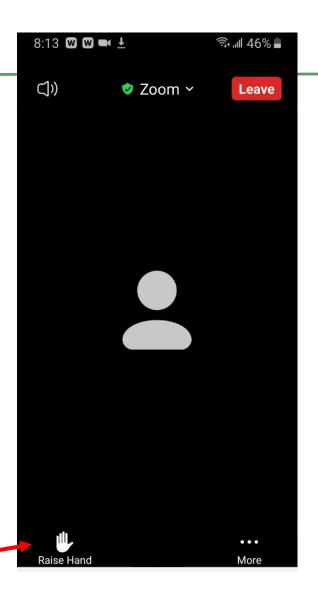


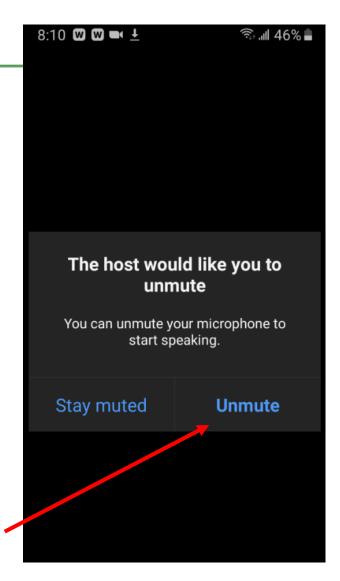




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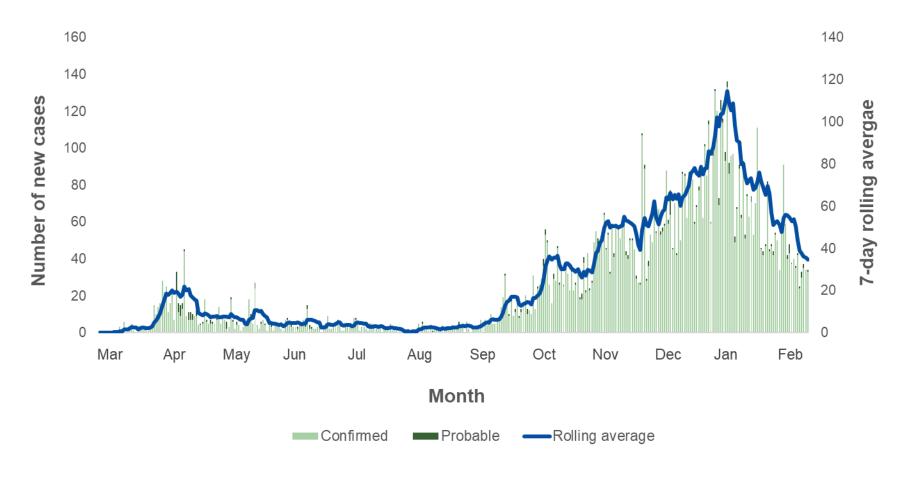








### **COVID-19 cases in Halton**



Total cases: 9,073

Active: 259

Resolved: 8,629

Deceased: 185



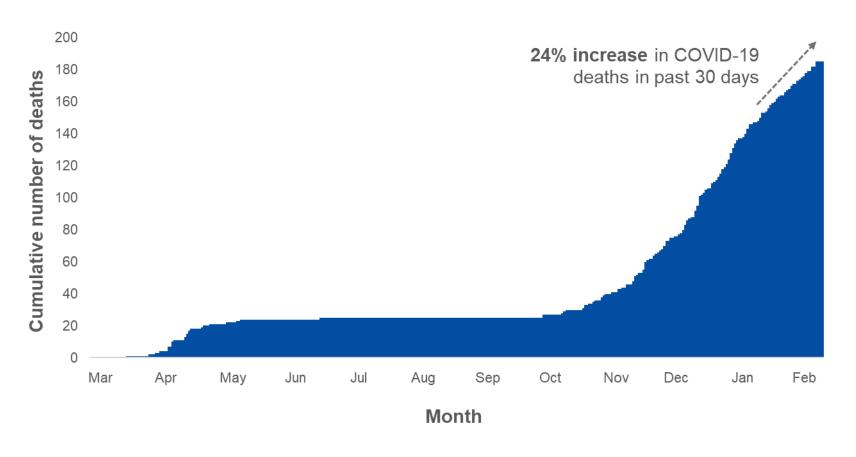
Fig: Number of new COVID-19 cases in Halton residents, by reported date and case classification, Mar 1 2020-Feb 15 2021







### **COVID-19 deaths in Halton**



Total deaths: 185

Mar-Jun: 25

Jul-Sep: 0

Oct-Feb 15: 160

142 out of 185 deaths (77%) among residents aged **80+** 



Fig: Cumulative number of deaths among COVID-19 cases, by day, Mar 1 2020 – Feb 15 2021







### **COVID-19 Vaccines: Our progress to date**

**DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY** February 1 February 21 Halton Public Health. Halton Public Health. January 25 Paramedics and Paramedics and **January 11** Halton Public Health Halton Healthcare Halton Healthcare Halton Public Health and Paramedics start begin second doses complete second December 23 and Paramedics start mobile clinics for for LTC and high-risk doses for LTC and mobile clinics for Halton Healthcare high-risk retirement retirement home high-risk retirement LTCHs clinic opens homes residents home residents January 23 January 30 February 9 **TBD** January 5 All LTC and 985 staff in LTC and Halton Public Health Halton Public Health. **Knowledge Sharing** Paramedics and retirement homes and Paramedic Session with General retirement home have received their mobile teams Halton Healthcare Hillier residents and staff first dose complete first doses complete first doses complete for LTCH residents for high-risk

retirement home

residents











# **COVID-19 dashboard updates**

#### Vaccinations tab

#### Dashboard

Having trouble loading the dashboard? View in fullscreen.



Halton is currently focused on vaccinating priority populations as identified by the Province, including recent Provincial direction to accelerate vaccinations for residents in long-term care and high-risk retirement homes and second doses for prioritized healthcare workers.

- Mobile teams of Halton Region Public Health and Halton Region Paramedic Services staff began vaccinations for residents, staff and essential caregivers at long-term care and high-risk retirement homes on January 11, 2021.
- Halton Healthcare established a COVID-19 Vaccination Centre at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital and began vaccinating long term
  care and high-risk retirement home staff and prioritized healthcare workers on December 22, 2020 and essential caregivers in early
  January.

Halton's COVID-19 vaccination program remains contingent on supply. As more vaccine becomes available, we will continue to roll out the vaccine to priority populations as quickly as possible.

#### Our progress so far





Data are refreshed weekly.

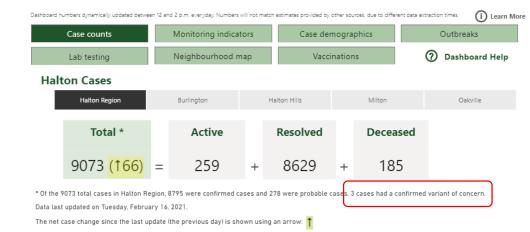
Data last updated on Friday, February 12, 2021, for doses administered up to and including Thursday, February 11, 2021

? What does this mean?

#### Variants of concern

#### Dashboard

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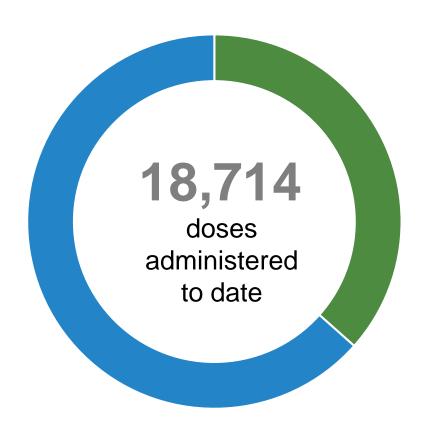






# COVID-19 Vaccines: Our progress to date

As of February 11, 2021:



 Halton Region Public Health and Paramedic Mobile Teams (6,493 doses)

Halton Healthcare Vaccination Centre (12,221 doses)

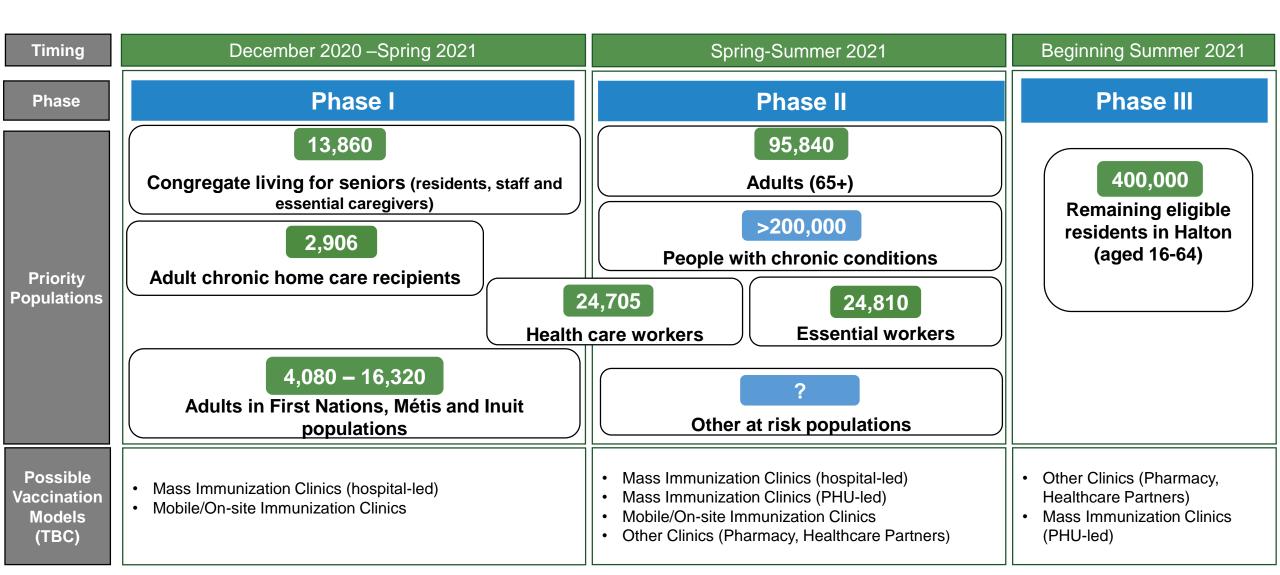








#### Vaccine Roll-out: Halton COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan

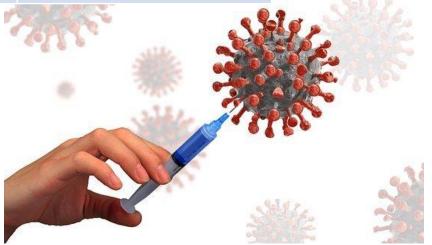


### **COVID-19 vaccines available in Canada**

Name	Туре	Ages	Schedule	Route	Antigen nature	Pre-puncture storage	Diluent	Post- puncture use limit	Formats
Pfizer- BioNTech	COVID- 19 mRNA	16+	2 doses, 21 days apart (alternate schedule 28 days)	IM	Prefusion spike protein	-80°C to -60°C; 120 hours (5 days) at +2°C to +8°C and/or 2 hours up to +25°C	Yes	6 hours at +2°C to +25°C	Multi-dose vial (5 doses) Preservative free
Moderna	COVID- 19 mRNA	18+	2 doses, 28 days apart	IM	Prefusion spike protein	-25°C to -15°C; 30 days at +2°C to +8°C and/or 12 hours at +8°C to +25°C	No	6 hours at +2°C to +25°C	Multi-dose vial (10 doses) Preservative free

# COVID-19 vaccines pending approval

Manufacturer	Туре	Dosing	Storage		
AstraZeneca	Adenovirus vector	2 doses, 28 days	+2ºC to +8ºC, for 6 months		
Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)	,		+2ºC to +8ºC, for 3 months		
Novavax	vax Recombinant nanopartical		Fridge stable		











# Effects of delaying second dose

 When supply is limited, NACI recommends that second doses may be delayed up to 42 days after the first.

 First dose efficacy of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is 92% 14 days after dose 1.







# Special population considerations – Immunocompromised

- Discuss risks and benefits of vaccination (including timing of vaccination in relation to their therapy) with individuals with autoimmune conditions, immunodeficiency conditions or who are immunosuppressed due to disease or treatment that are receiving:
  - stem cell therapy,
  - CAR-T therapy,
  - · chemotherapy,
  - immune checkpoint inhibitors and/or
  - monoclonal antibodies (e.g., rituximab) and other targeted agents (e.g., CD4/6 inhibitors, PARP inhibitors).
- · Verbal attestation of this discussion is accepted at the time of vaccination.
- Individuals with these conditions, not on these therapies, may choose to be vaccinated and discuss risks and benefits with their healthcare providers, but are not required to consult prior to vaccination.









# Special population considerations – Pregnant and breastfeeding

 Not included in Phase III clinical trials, but there were handful of pregnancies with no adverse events.

 mRNA vaccines not hypothesized to be a risk to breastfeeding infant (MOH, February 12, 2021; NACI, January 12, 2021; SOGC, February 1, 2021; OSOG/OMA-OG, 2021)

- Pregnant and breastfeeding individuals should be vaccinated as long as benefits outweigh the potential risks (MOH, February 12, 2021; NACI, January 12, 2021; SOGC, February 1, 2021; OSOG/OMA-OG, 2021)
- Verbal attestation of healthcare discussion accepted at time of vaccination.





### Who shouldn't be immunized

- People with proven immediate or anaphylactic hypersensitivity to any component of vaccine or its container, including polyethylene glycol (PEG)
- People with history of anaphylaxis after previous administration to the COVID-19 vaccine:
  - Should be referred to an allergist to determine the cause of the reaction and whether re-immunization can safely proceed.
  - Documentation of the discussion with the allergist-immunologist must be provided to the clinic and include a vaccination care plan, confirming that appropriate counselling on the safe administration of vaccine was provided





### Adverse events

- Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CSACI) identifies risk for serious allergic reaction as low (CSACI, January 5, 2021)
- Out of 600,000 total doses administered in Canada, rate of serious adverse reaction (including anaphylaxis) is 0.004%. (Health Canada, January 2021)
- Most frequently reported AEFIs:
  - Vaccination site reactions
  - Paraesthesia (tingling or prickling)
  - Urticaria (hives)
  - Pruritis (itching)
  - Nausea

Source: <a href="https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccine-safety/">https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccine-safety/</a>











0 to 7 days 0 to 7 days

0 to 7 days

N/A
0 to 2 days
0 to 3 days

0 to 3 days 0 to 42 days

0 to 42 days 0 to 42 days

1 to 8 weeks 0 to 3 months 1-live vaccin

0 to 30 minute 0 to 42 days

### Adverse events

#### AEFI fact sheet,

Public Health Ontario) Table lists types of adverse events that should be reported, including estimated timelines between vaccination and onset of symptoms



#### ADVERSE EVENT FOLLOWING IMMUNIZATION REPORTING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN ONTARIO

DO YOUR PART TO MONITOR ADVERSE EVENTS!



Advise patients to contact you or your team if they experience an adverse event after



Report adverse events to you local public health unit, using Public Health Ontario's Report of Adverse Event Following



health unit if you have any questions about AEFI

#### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

- An adverse event following immunization (AEFI) is an unwanted or unexpected health effect that happens after someone receives a vaccine, which may or
- Who should report an AEFI? Health care providers (i.e. physicians, nurses and pharmacists) are required by law to report AEFIs. Reports should be made using the Ontario AEFI Reporting Form and sent to the local public health unit.

Vaccine recipients or their caregivers may also voluntarily report AEFIs to public health.

Why is it important to report

When you report an AEFI you provide vital information that is needed to monitor vaccine safety. This information is also used to report on vaccine safety to Ontarians, which contributes to the success of immunization

- What types of adverse events should be reported?
- You should report any event which may be related to receipt of a vaccine, as outlined on the next page. Of particular importance are events which require medical consultation, or unusual or unexpected events. Submitting a report does not mean that the vaccine caused the event.
- What does NOT need to be reported?

Some common or mild events do not need to be reported. These include:

- · fever that is not accompanied by any other symptoms
- · injection site reactions that last less than 4 days
- vasovagal syncope (without injury)
- · events that are clearly attributed to other causes.

#### What do I need to know about reporting AEFIs for COVID-19 vaccine?

Similar to reports for other vaccines, reports of AEFIs for COVID-19 vaccine should be made using the Ontario AEFI Reporting Form and sent to your local public health unit. The AEFI reporting form has been updated to include adverse events of special interest for COVID-19 vaccine, in addition to the list of adverse events on the next page which apply to all

IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHETHER TO REPORT AN AEFI, BE PROACTIVE AND REPORT THE EVENT.

#### Ontario AEFI reporting form, (Ministry of Health)

Report of Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI)									P	ublic Healti Ontario	h Sa	nté sublique ntarió		
When completed, please send the form to your local <u>Public Health Unit</u> by a secure means.  Case ID  for more information about AEF1 reporting in Ontario wisit the <u>Public Health Ontario website</u> (for local use only):														
The form should be used to capture AEFIs for all vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines.														
1 - CLIENT INFORMATION  Dient last name:   Given name(s):   Ontario Health Card #:   Date of Birth (yyy/ne/dd):								166						
Cirem test neithe: Given nam														
Gender Male Female	Oth		nown Pa	erent/gua			egiver full name, as	applicable:		Telephone #:				
Address:					CI	ty:				Poetal Code:				
Reported to public health by:			Relations	thip with	CNIS				Date of report (yyyylminléd):					
Form completed by:			Contact	nformatic	on (if	diffe	rent from above):							
2 - IMMUNIZATION INF	ORMATI	ON For P	fizer-Bid	NTech (	ovi	D-11	vaccine enter bo	th vaccin	e and d	and diluent information here.				
Date Time (yyyyimm/dd) (28hr - HH-MM)		Agent and					Lot#	Exp. (	date	Dose#	Site	Route		
0.00								0.00		$\vdash$				
										1				
	Instruction error:													
3 - ADVERSE EVENT IN														
Report only events which cannot be to enset of the event (time between duration is less than one hour reco	attributed to er <u>vaccine ad</u> ed in minutes.	co-existing a ministration if less than 2	ondtions and <u>onset</u> of hours re	Reaction of each ex cord in to	man a	ted w and th great	ith an asterick (*) must e duration of each eve ter than or equal to 24	be diagnoss ant in minute hours record	ed by a ph se or hou t in days.	ysician. Rec es or days. I	and the file the interv	al /		
	Specif	y minutes	or hours	or days					Specif	ly minutes	or hours	or days		
Local Reaction at the Injection Site	of	to onset event	Durat	ion of ent	Allergic Reactions				Time to onset Durati			tion of vent		
Pain/redness / swelling extend past nearest joint	ing				Event managed as anaphylaxis  Oculorespiratory syndrome (ORS)						-			
Pain/redness / swelling lasting 4 days or more			Allergic reaction - skin (E.g. hives)											
Infected abscess*			Neurologic Events						Time to onset   Duration of					
Sterile abscess* Nodule	Sterile abscass*			Convulsions / seizure					of event event			vent		
Cellulitie*			Encephalopathy / encephalitis*											
Systemic Reactions Time to onset Duration					n of Anaesthesia / paraesthesia*									
Fever greater than 38.0°C	of	event	ave	ent	Paralysis*				$\vdash$		+			
(Only reportable in conjunction with another event)					Beife Palcy*									
Rash					Guittan-Barré Syndrome (GBS)* Muelitis / Transverse Myelitis*						-			
Adenopathy / lymphadenopath	ν'				l	Aa	de disseminated							
Hypotonic-hyporesponsive episode (HHE)*					_		aphalomyelitis*				Lan	der of		
Persistent crying / screaming Severe vorsiting / dianthea				Ce	Other events of interest			Time to onset Duration of of event event						
(3 episodes/24 hours)				H	:	ombocytopenia* hritis / arthralgia				+				
Parottis*					Intussusception*									
					Kawasaki Disease*									
							rcope (fainting) with it ver severe or unusual				-			
Page 1/2 Describe all ever	nts in Sec	tion 5 on	revers	-		l	- Date of Grand				_			











### Dr. Noni MacDonald



Dr. Noni E. MacDonald, MD MSC FRCPC

Professor Paediatrics (Infectious Diseases), Dalhousie University

#### Research focus on:

Vaccine safety
Vaccine hesitancy
Vaccine communication







# Dr. Noni MacDonald's presentation









## **Questions?**











# What primary care can do now

- Talk to your patients about vaccinations especially special populations (older adults, pregnant, autoimmune issues, etc.)
  - Protett Plan for COVID-19 vaccination discussion (CEP)
  - COVID-19 vaccination recommendations for special populations (Ministry of Health
- Begin to plan for possible in-clinic immunizations
  - COVID-19 vaccine clinic operations planning checklist (Ministry of Health)
- Report adverse events following immunizations
  - Ontario AEFI Reporting Form
- Keep informed
  - COVID-19 vaccine resource (CEP)
  - halton.ca/physicians also sign up for e-blasts at bottom of webpage
  - halton.ca/covid19





# **Healthcare Advisory Round Table**

Dr. Arshad Hack	Burlington Primary Care					
Dr. Kiran Cherla	Halton Hills Primary Care					
Dr. Carolyn Malec	Milton Primary Care					
Dr. Kristiana Martiniuk	Oakville Primary Care					
Dr. Dan Edgecumbe	Halton Healthcare					
Leslie Motz	Joseph Brant Hospital					
Alim Janmohamed	Community Pharmacist					
Martina Rozsa	HNHB LHIN					
Elizabeth Salvaterra	Ontario Health Central					
Dr. Joanna Oda	Halton Region Public Health					











# Thank you













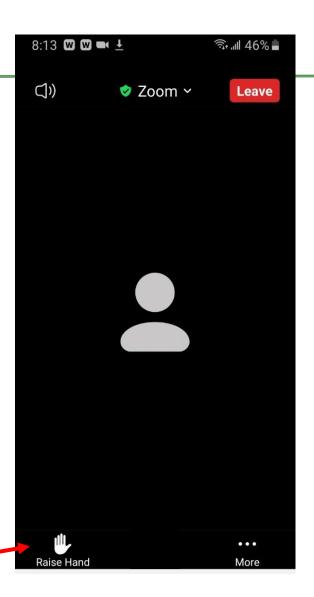


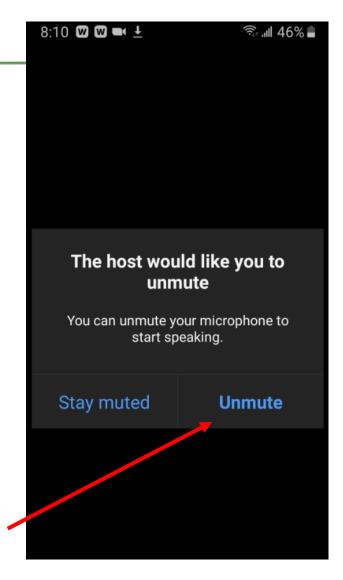




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# Prioritization of Healthcare Workers

Dr. Joanna Oda

February 17, 2021



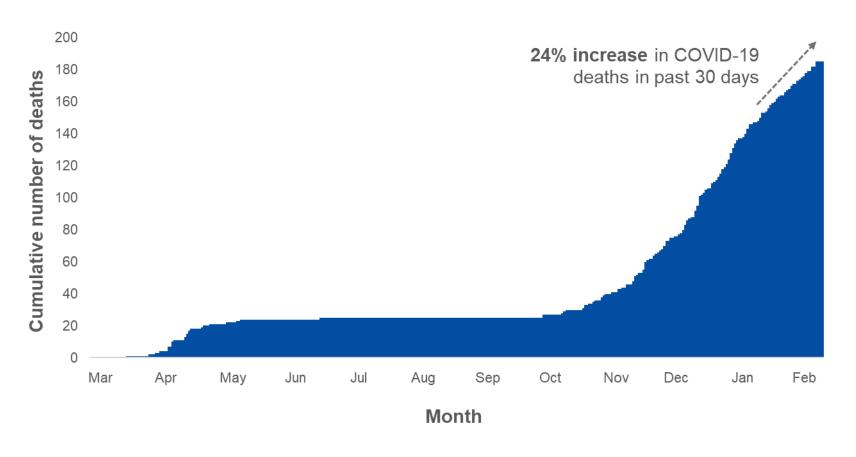








### **COVID-19 deaths in Halton**



Total deaths: 185

Mar-Jun: 25

Jul-Sep: 0

Oct-Feb 15: 160

142 out of 185 deaths (77%) among residents aged **80+** 



Fig: Cumulative number of deaths among COVID-19 cases, by day, Mar 1 2020 – Feb 15 2021







#### **Case-fatality rate comparison**

- Halton has not recorded any deaths among cases working in health occupations, including physicians.
- The case-fatality rate is much higher for cases aged 70 and up, and for residents of long-term care and retirement homes.
- Over 90% of wave 2 deaths in Halton have been among residents in long-term care/retirement home outbreaks.

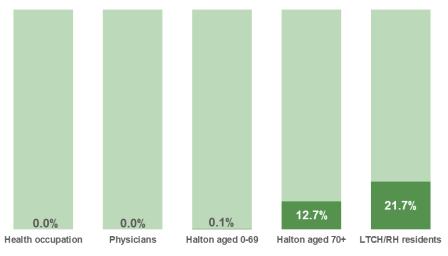


Fig: Proportion of cases who are deceased (case-fatality rates),

by group, cases reported Sep. 1, 2020-Jan. 14, 2021



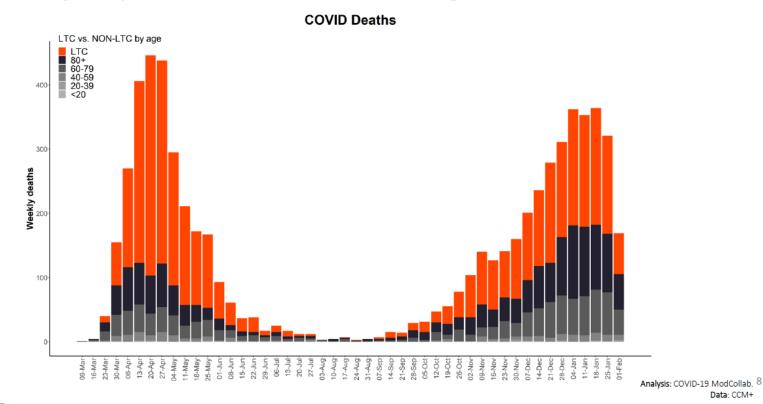






#### COVID-19 Deaths Ontario

The majority of deaths arise from long-term care.







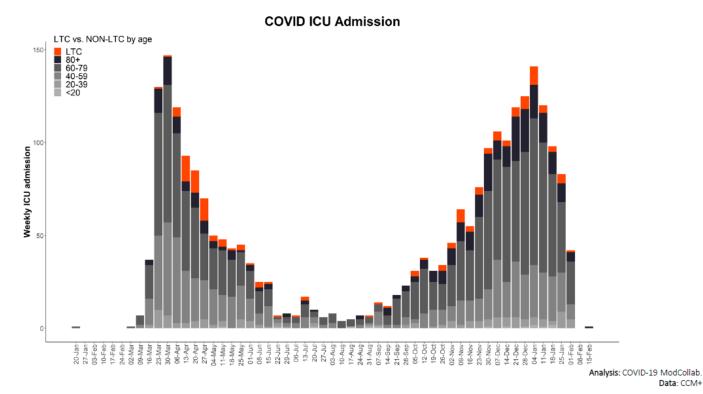
Data: CCM+



REGION

## Older adults hospitalizations

The majority of ICU admissions arise outside of long-term care homes.







Data: CCM+



15





#### Ontario 🔞

### Provincial Guidance

- The province has provided guidance on:
  - Who is a Healthcare Worker (HCW)
  - The sequence of HCW immunization
  - The timing of the HCW sequence in relation to other priority groups

#### Ministry of Health

#### COVID-19: Guidance for Prioritizing Health Care Workers for COVID-19 Vaccination

Version 2.0, February 9, 2021

#### Highlights of Changes

- Set out more specific sub-prioritization of health care workers
- Further clarification of roles and responsibilities of health sector partners
- Considerations provided for implementation

#### Key Messages

- Demand for COVID-19 vaccine will initially exceed available supply; prioritization must be set among health care workers.
- Sub-prioritization of health care workers will assist with vaccine delivery to health care
  workers in parallel with vaccination of other <u>Phase 1</u> priority populations.
- Health care workers are prioritized based on risk of exposure, patient populations served, and incidence of COVID-19 outbreaks.
- An ethics and equity lens should be applied to all prioritization decision-making.

This guidance provides basic information only. It is not intended to take the place of medical advice, diagnosis or treatment, legal advice or legal requirements.

In the event of any conflict between this guidance document and any applicable emergency orders, or directives issued by the Minister of Health, Minister of Long-Term Care, or the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), the order or directive prevails.

 Please check the Ministry of Health's (MOH) <u>COVID-19 website</u> regularly for updates to this document, list of symptoms, other guidance documents, directives and other information.











#### Provincial Guidance defines Healthcare Worker as:

- any regulated health professionals
- any staff member, contract worker, student/trainee, registered volunteer, or other essential caregiver working in a health care organization,
- includes workers that are not providing direct patient care such as cleaning staff, food services staff, information technology staff, security, research staff, and other administrative staff.
- workers providing a healthcare service or direct patient service in nonhealthcare settings (e.g. school nurse, peer worker in a shelter)





# Provincial Guidance – Healthcare Worker Categorization

#### Four groups:

- Highest priority
- Very High priority
- High Priority
- Moderate Priority













# **Highest Priority**

- Hospital and acute care staff that have contact with COVID patients and/or with a high-risk of exposure to COVID-19:
  - Critical Care Units (including those performing aerosol-generating procedures),
  - Emergency Departments and Urgent Care Departments,
  - COVID Medical Units,
  - Code Blue Teams, rapid response teams,
  - General Internal medicine.
- All patient-facing Health care workers involved in the COVID response:
  - COVID-19 Specimen Collection Centres,
  - Teams supporting outbreak response,
  - Immunizers at COVID-19 vaccination clinics,
  - Mobile Testing Teams,
  - COVID Isolation Centres,
  - COVID Laboratory Services.
- Medical First Responders (e.g. paramedics, firefighters providing medical first response)
- Community health workers serving specialized populations:
  - Home Care Agency Staff providing direct care to persons over the age of 60.
  - Home and community care (TBD),
  - Needle exchange/syringe programs
  - Home and Community Care HCW caring for recipients of chronic homecare and seniors in congregate living facilities









# Very High Priority

- Acute care and other hospital settings, in patient care areas not included in Highest Priority
- Congregate settings: assisted living, correctional settings, residential facilities, hospices and palliative care settings, shelters, supportive housing (outside of Highest Priority level)
- Community care with high risk of exposure and serving specialized patient populations:
   Community Health Centers, Home and community care (outside of the Highest Priority level), Adult day programs for seniors.
- Other health care services for Indigenous populations: Community agencies with patient-facing providers delivering any type of health services to First Nations communities and Indigenous Peoples that are not captured in Highest Priority).
- Community care with high risk of exposure and serving the general population (Birth centres, Community Based Specialists, Death investigation professionals, Dentistry, Gynecology/obstetrics, Midwifery, Nurse practitioner-led clinics / contract nursing agencies, Otolaryngology (ENT), Pharmacies, Primary care, Respirology (Respiratory Therapy), Walk-in clinics).
- Laboratory services







# Provincial Sequence

- Staff and essential caregivers at LTC, high-risk RH and residents
- ALC patients with a confirmed admission for LTC, RH or other congregate care home for seniors
- Highest Priority HCWs followed by Very High Priority HCWs
- Indigenous adults in northern remote and higher-risk communities (including reserve and urban communities)
- Adults 80 years and older
- Staff, residents and caregivers in other RHs and other congregate care settings
- High Priority HCW
- All indigenous adults
- Adult recipients of chronic home care









# Who is getting COVID-19 vaccine in Halton

#### Continue:

- Staff, residents and essential caregivers at LTC and all retirement homes
- Staff and residents at other congregate settings serving seniors

#### Begin (not in sequential order):

- Firefighters
- Home and Community Care Staff providing care in congregate settings
- Immunizers at Public Health community clinics
- Chronic homecare recipients
- Patient-facing hospital staff









# Halton's priority in March

- Persons aged 80 and older
- Very High Priority HCW, age based criteria







### Questions

















