



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Beginning April 11, 2023, specific high-risk individuals are recommended to receive a **spring booster** dose if at least **6 months** has passed since their previous dose. These individuals include:

- 65 years of age and older
- Residents of Long-term care and retirement homes, elder care lodges and other congregate living settings for seniors
- 18 years and older living in congregate care settings for people with complex medical needs
- Pregnant
- 18 years and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised
- Aged 55 years and older who identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis and their non-Indigenous household members aged 55 years and older

All other individuals outside of these groups, that **have not** received a booster since **September 1, 2022** are encouraged to receive a booster at 6-months. There is **no current evidence** to support an **additional booster** for individuals that **have already received a booster** on/after September 1, 2022.

Vaccine booster doses **should be administered at a 6-month interval** to ensure an adequate antibody response. A 3-month minimum interval between booster doses is no longer recommended.

Moderna Bivalent is **transitioning from BA.1 to BA.4/5**. The use of Moderna BA.1 Bivalent as a booster dose has been **expanded for use in those 6 years of age and older** while supply is available.

The use of Novavax as a **primary series** has been authorized by Health Canada for use in individuals **12 years of age and older**. Booster doses of Novavax remain limited to those 18 and older.

Individuals may receive COVID-19 vaccination at select pharmacy locations. For a list visit <https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-vaccines.aspx#Pharmacies> or individuals can book an appointment at Durham Region Health Department community immunization clinics by visiting www.durham.ca/vaccineappointment or by calling the appointment booking line 1-888-444-5113.

Further information about COVID-19 vaccines is available at www.durham.ca/covidvaccines and through the Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance Document](#).

April 11, 2023

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

