



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose Referrals for Immunocompromised Update

On September 14, the Ontario government announced eligibility expansion of a third dose COVID-19 vaccine for individuals most at risk of serious illness from the virus.

At this time, third doses of the COVID-19 vaccines will be offered for the following populations eligible for vaccination with the vaccine product authorized for their age group, to complete an extended primary COVID-19 vaccine series.

- Individuals receiving active* treatment (e.g., chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy) for solid tumour or hematologic malignancies.
*Active treatment includes patients who have completed treatment within 3 months
- Recipients of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy.
- Recipients of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T-cell therapy or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy).
- Individuals with moderate to severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Individuals with stage 3 or advanced untreated HIV infection and those with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.
- Individuals receiving active treatment with the following categories of immunosuppressive therapies: anti-B cell therapies** (monoclonal antibodies targeting CD19, CD20 and CD22), high-dose systemic corticosteroids (refer to the CIG for suggested definition of high dose steroids), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, or tumor-necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors and other biologic agents that are significantly immunosuppressive.

**Active treatment for patients receiving B-cell depleting therapy includes patients who have completed treatment within 12 months

over...

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.



The referral process remains the same; the most responsible health care provider (e.g., specialist or specialty clinic) can refer these patients to Lakeridge Health to receive their third dose of vaccine. The **referral form** located on the [Lakeridge Health website](https://www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca) (or visit www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca, then the COVID-19 Vaccine Information section, and look for NEW Primary Care/Specialist 3rd dose Referral Process) **must be faxed** to the hospital at: (905) 721-4876.

All patients referred to Lakeridge Health will be contacted, and an appointment will be booked for their third dose of vaccine.

Patients arriving at clinics with a letter from their healthcare provider will not be accepted as Health Department walk-in appointments at immunization clinics. All third doses of COVID vaccine will be **by booked appointments only** arranged by Lakeridge Health.

September 16, 2021

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