



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccine: Expanded Third Dose Eligibility and Referrals for Special Populations

On December 2, 2021, the Ministry of Health expanded the third dose eligibility of moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals to **include individuals receiving dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis) to receive a third COVID-19 vaccine dose 8 weeks (56 days) after their second dose.**

As with other individuals within the moderately to severely immunocompromised eligibility criteria, patients are to be **referred to Lakeridge Health** by the most responsible health care provider (the form is available via www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca on the COVID-19 information page). All patients referred to Lakeridge Health will be contacted and an appointment will be booked for their third dose of vaccine.

Beginning **Monday, December 13, 2021 at 8:00 a.m., individuals age 50 and older (born in 1971 or earlier) will be eligible to schedule an appointment to receive their third dose** of COVID-19 vaccine. This expanded eligibility will provide additional protection against COVID-19 and its variants. These individuals can **receive their third dose 168 days after their second dose.** Appointments are available by visiting the Health Department's booking website: durham.ca/vaccineappointment or calling 1-888-444-5113. These eligible individuals are also encouraged to seek third doses at a local pharmacy.

As per the Ministry of Health, it is recommended that **re-vaccination with a new COVID-19 vaccine primary series be initiated post-transplantation** for hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT), hematopoietic cell transplants (HCT) (autologous or allogeneic), and recipients of CAR-T-cell therapy given the loss of immunity following therapy or transplant. Optimal timing for re-immunization should be determined on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the clinical team. Re-vaccination can be facilitated by health care provider referral to Lakeridge Health.

Additional information can be obtained via:

[Ministry of Health COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose Recommendations](#)

[Ministry of Health COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations for Special Populations](#)

December 6, 2021

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.

