



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility and Interval Updates

Birth Date Eligibility

The Ministry of Health has revised eligibility for COVID-19 vaccines based on **date of birth**. Unless other eligibility criteria is met, at the time of immunization:

- Children must be 5 years of age to 11 years of age to receive Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty®
- Individuals must be 12 year of age or older to receive Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty®
- Individuals must be 18 years of age or older to receive a third (i.e., booster) COVID-19 vaccine dose
- Individuals must be 70 years of age or older to receive a full dose of Moderna for their third (i.e., booster) COVID-19 vaccine dose

Pfizer Shortage and Moderna Allergy Eligibility

During the current national Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty® shortage, Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty® vaccine is only available for individuals 12-29 years of age or older. Individuals 30 years of age or older should receive Moderna Spikevax® as their first, second or third doses.

Individuals 30 years of age or older with an **allergy to any vaccine component** of the Moderna Spikevax® vaccine may present a letter from a health care provider (i.e., physician, specialist, or nurse practitioner) to receive Pfizer vaccine. The letter must specify that an allergy exists to the Moderna Spikevax® vaccine. Letters with general comments will not be accepted.

Minimum Interval for Pediatric Pfizer

Although the Ministry of Health **recommends an interval of 8 weeks** between first and second doses for Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty®, children can now receive a second dose at the **minimum interval of 21 days** with informed consent, via Health Department community immunization clinics.

Expanded 4th Dose Eligibility

Residents of long-term care homes (LTCH), retirement homes (RH), Elder Care Lodges and older adults living in other congregate settings that provide assisted-living and health services are recommended to receive a **fourth dose** of an mRNA vaccine at least **three months (84 days)** after the third dose of vaccine. Additional information is available via [Ministry of Health COVID-19 Third Dose Recommendations](#).

January 21, 2022

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.

