



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



Moderna Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine Available

Beginning **September 13, 2022**, the Moderna Spikevax® Bivalent COVID-19 vaccine product will begin to be offered across Durham as a **booster dose** to **vulnerable populations** including:

- Individuals aged 70 and over
- Residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, Elder Care Lodges and individuals living in other congregate settings that provide assisted-living and health services
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis individuals and their non-Indigenous household members aged 18 and over
- Moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals aged 12 and over (**off-label use**)
- Pregnant individuals aged 18 and older
- Health care workers aged 18 and older.

Appointments for the **general population 18+** will begin **September 26, 2022**.

The Moderna Spikevax® Bivalent COVID-19 vaccine is administered as a **single booster dose** (50 mcg), at a **recommended** interval of **168 days (6-months)** after a previous COVID-19 vaccine. It is the **preferred booster dose** in individuals **18 years of age and older** and should be offered to this population **regardless of the number of previous booster doses received**.

Each booster of the Moderna Spikevax® Bivalent COVID-19 vaccine contains 25 mcg of mRNA encoding for the original SARS-CoV-2 virus and 25 mcg of mRNA encoding the Omicron BA.1 variant. Moderna Bivalent demonstrated a **higher neutralizing antibody response** against the original strain, Omicron BA.1 and Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 among individuals with and without prior infection when **compared to a second booster dose of the original Moderna** (50 mcg).

Individuals can book an **appointment** for the Moderna Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine 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. Walk-in appointments will not be available at this time.

Vaccine opportunities are available through GO-VAXX, at pop-up clinics, at [participating pharmacies](#) and through designated [health care providers](#). Visit www.durham.ca/covidvaccines for more information

September 13, 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.

