

October 6, 2021

TO: Saskatchewan Health Authority
Indigenous Services Canada- Saskatchewan Region
Northern Intertribal Health Authority
Saskatchewan Medical Association
Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association
Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
Saskatchewan College of Paramedics
Saskatchewan College of Respiratory Therapists
Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan
Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Amendment - COVID-19 Vaccine Third Doses or Booster Doses to Select Populations – Phase 2A

In follow up to the letter date September 30, 2021, amendments to the letter and **Tables 1 and 2** have been made for your reference.

It is advised to match mRNA vaccine brands for a client's immunization series, however if the mRNA vaccine brand a client previously received is unavailable at the time of presentation for the booster dose, or the client requests another mRNA vaccine brand, the other mRNA vaccine brand may be administered and is expected to provide strong protection against COVID-19.

Persons 80 years of age and older become eligible for immunization six months after their second dose and remain eligible. If they have already received a third dose a minimum of 28 days from their second dose (e.g., for travel), they do not qualify for a fourth dose, as it is unnecessary. Their eligibility will be reviewed once they reach 6 months after their third travel related dose. This has been updated in **Table 1**.

For those who received COVISHIELD® or AstraZeneca Vaxzevria® as their first dose and a mRNA vaccine brand for their second dose, ensure that they receive the same matching mRNA vaccine brand for their additional/booster doses when possible (as noted in Table 2).

For individuals who received AstraZeneca-AstraZeneca or COVISHIELD® - COVISHIELD® as their primary series (not mixed), they are to receive one mRNA vaccine as their third/additional/booster dose unless there is contraindication to mRNA vaccine.

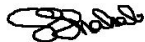
... 2

Eligible persons may receive their COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as their influenza dose, including those 80 years and older living in the community as long as six months have elapsed since their second COVID-19 dose **unless** they are eligible due to immune suppression as per **Table 1**, in which case their third COVID-19 dose can be given prior to the 6 month period. In other situations, influenza vaccine may be given earlier and the person **should return** for their COVID-19 vaccine once six months have elapsed.

Table 1: Phase 2A Eligible Populations as of October 4, 2021

Population	Interval from dose 2 to dose 3
80 years and older living in the community	6 months (If 3 rd dose for travel administered \geq 28 days after 2 nd dose it counts as booster)
Individuals with primary or acquired immunodeficiency states: - Including but not limited to poorly controlled HIV/AIDS (i.e. a current CD4 count of <200 cells/ μ l for adults or children) - Primary or acquired cellular and combined immune deficiencies	28 days
Individuals on immunosuppressive or immunomodulating therapy at the time of vaccination including: - Those who were receiving or had received in the previous 3 months targeted therapy and/or immune modulating therapy for autoimmune disease - Those who were receiving or had received in the previous 6 months immunosuppressive chemotherapy or radiotherapy for any indication	28 days
Individuals with chronic immune-mediated inflammatory disease who were receiving or had received immunosuppressive therapy prior to vaccination including: methotrexate, azathioprine	28 days
Individuals who had received high-dose steroids (equivalent to \geq 40mg prednisolone per day for more than a week) for any reason in the month before vaccination.	28 days

Sincerely,



Dr. Saqib Shahab
Chief Medical Health Officer

Table 2: Additional COVID-19 Dose Recommendations ^{1, 2, 3}

Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3
COVISHIELD	COVISHIELD	Pfizer
COVISHIELD	COVISHIELD	Moderna
COVISHIELD	AstraZeneca	Pfizer
COVISHIELD	AstraZeneca	Moderna
AstraZeneca	AstraZeneca	Pfizer
AstraZeneca	AstraZeneca	Moderna
AstraZeneca	COVISHIELD	Pfizer
AstraZeneca	COVISHIELD	Moderna
COVISHIELD	Pfizer	Pfizer
COVISHIELD	Moderna	Moderna
AstraZeneca	Pfizer	Pfizer
AstraZeneca	Moderna	Moderna
Pfizer	Pfizer	Pfizer
Pfizer	Moderna	Moderna
Pfizer	Moderna	Pfizer
Pfizer	Pfizer	Moderna
Moderna	Moderna	Moderna
Moderna	Pfizer	Pfizer
Moderna	Pfizer	Moderna
Moderna	Moderna	Pfizer
Pfizer	AstraZeneca	Pfizer
Pfizer	COVISHIELD	Pfizer
Moderna	AstraZeneca	Moderna
Moderna	COVISHIELD	Moderna
Janssen/Johnson & Johnson	Pfizer	Pfizer
Janssen/Johnson & Johnson	Moderna	Moderna

Notes:

1. AstraZeneca may be given to individuals who have a contraindication to mRNA vaccines.
2. AstraZeneca vaccine is only available from Public Health.
3. Some individuals may have received 2 doses of Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccines; they only require 1 dose of mRNA vaccine as a third or booster dose; see Footnote 1.