

November 29, 2023

TO: Saskatchewan Health Authority
Indigenous Services Canada- SK Region
Saskatchewan College of Respiratory Therapists
Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan

Northern Intertribal Health Authority
Saskatchewan Medical Association
Saskatchewan College of Paramedics
College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan
Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch

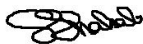
Re: COVID-19 Program Update – Amendments to XBB.1.5 COVID-19 Vaccination Schedules in the Saskatchewan Immunization Manual

Dear Colleagues,

This letter is to advise you that the *XBB.1.5 COVID-19 Vaccination Schedules* in Chapter 10 of the *Saskatchewan Immunization Manual* (SIM) ([SIM Chapter 10](#)) are revised to align with the [Canadian Immunization Guide's COVID-19 vaccine](#) chapter, and the National Advisory Committee on Immunization's (NACI) [Updated guidance on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in individuals who have not previously been vaccinated against COVID-19](#) (Oct. 2023) and [Addendum to the guidance on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in the fall of 2023](#) (Sept. 2023).

The amendments include additional dose requirements for moderately to severely immunocompromised persons, vaccine dosage directives for children based on age at presentation, (includes age transitions from 4 to 5 years old and 11 to 12 years old) as well as amended foot notes. Refer to **Appendix A**.

Sincerely,



Dr. Saqib Shahab
Chief Medical Health Officer

cc: Medical Health Officers of Saskatchewan

Appendix A: XBB.1.5 COVID-19 Vaccination Schedules (revised Nov. 2023)

IMPORTANT NOTE: the following Pfizer Comirnaty® XBB.1.5 vaccines are available:

- **12+ Years of Age: Gray Cap/Label Border - DO NOT DILUTE**, multidose vial containing 6 doses of 0.3 mL.
- **5 Years to 11 Years: Blue Cap/Label Border – DO NOT DILUTE**, multidose vial containing 6 doses of 0.3 mL.
- **6 Months to 4 Years: Maroon Cap/Label Border – MUST DILUTE PRIOR TO USE**, multiple dose vial containing 10 doses of 0.2 mL after dilution.

Table 1: Schedules for individuals presenting at 5 years and older who are NOT immunocompromised

| Age | Vaccination History (non-XBB.1.5) | XBB.1.5 Dosage ² | Number of XBB.1.5 doses required | Interval between last dose and XBB.1.5 dose ¹ |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 12+ years | 0 or more doses | Moderna = 0.5 ml (50 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) |
| | | Pfizer 12+ = 0.3 ml (30 mcg) (Grey cap/label; DO NOT DILUTE) | | |
| 5 to 11 years | 0 or more doses | Moderna = 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 ³ | 6 months (min. 3 months) |
| | | Pfizer 5-11 = 0.3 ml (10 mcg) (Blue cap/label; DO NOT DILUTE) | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.

² The following dosages are considered invalid:

- Pfizer: 3 mcg administered at 5-11 years of age.
- Pfizer: 3 or 10 mcg administered at 12+ years of age.
- Moderna: 25 mcg administered at 12+ years of age.
- Administer an appropriate vaccine dosage based on age at presentation at a minimum interval of 4 weeks after an invalid (lower dosage for age) dose.

³ Children who have received a Pfizer 3 mcg dose starting at 4 years of age and then turn 5 years of age prior to completing the number of XBB.1.5 doses required, should be offered additional XBB.1.5 vaccine doses as per Table 5.

Table 2: Schedules for individuals presenting at 12 years and older WHO ARE moderately to severely immunocompromised

For a list of conditions, refer to the COVID-19 vaccine chapter in the Canadian Immunization Guide:

[canada.ca/CIG - COVID19 Immunocompromised](https://canada.ca/CIG- COVID19 Immunocompromised)

| Vaccination History (non-XBB.1.5) | XBB.1.5 Dosage ² | Number of XBB.1.5 doses required | Interval between last dose and first XBB.1.5 dose ¹ | Interval between XBB.1.5 doses ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 0 doses | Moderna = 0.5 ml (50 mcg) | 3 | N/A | 4-8 weeks |
| | Pfizer 12+ = 0.3 ml (30 mcg) (Grey cap/label; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |
| 1 dose | Moderna = 0.5 ml (50 mcg) | 2 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| | Pfizer 12+ = 0.3 ml (30 mcg) (Grey cap/label; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |
| 2 doses | Moderna = 0.5 ml (50 mcg) | 1 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| | Pfizer 12+ = 0.3 ml (30 mcg) (Grey cap/label; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |
| 3 or more doses | Moderna = 0.5 ml (50 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) | N/A |
| | Pfizer 12+ = 0.3 ml (30 mcg) (Grey cap/label; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.

² The following dosages are considered invalid:

- Pfizer: 3 or 10 mcg administered at 12+ years of age.
- Moderna: 25 mcg administered at 12+ years of age.
- Administer an appropriate vaccine dosage based on age at presentation at a minimum interval of 4 weeks after an invalid (lower dosage for age) dose.

Table 3: Schedule for individuals presenting at **5 to 11 years WHO ARE moderately to severely immunocompromised**

For a list of conditions, refer to the COVID-19 vaccine chapter in the Canadian Immunization Guide: [canada.ca/CIG - COVID19 Immunocompromised](https://canada.ca/CIG-COVID19/Immunocompromised)

| Vaccination History (non-XBB.1.5) | XBB.1.5 Dosage ² | Number of XBB.1.5 doses required ³ | Interval between last dose and first XBB.1.5 dose ¹ | Interval between XBB.1.5 doses ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| 0 doses | Moderna = 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 3 | N/A | 4-8 weeks |
| | Pfizer 5-11= 0.3 ml (10 mcg) (blue cap/label ; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |
| 1 dose | Moderna = 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 2 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| | Pfizer 5-11= 0.3 ml (10 mcg) (blue cap/label ; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |
| 2 doses | Moderna = 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| | Pfizer 5-11 = 0.3 ml (10 mcg) (blue cap/label ; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |
| 3 or more doses | Moderna= 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) | N/A |
| | Pfizer 5-11 = 0.3 ml (10 mcg) (blue cap/label ; DO NOT DILUTE) | | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.

² The following dosages are considered invalid:

- Pfizer: 3 mcg administered at 5-11 years of age.
- Administer an appropriate vaccine dosage based on age at presentation at a minimum interval of 4 weeks after an invalid (lower dosage for age) dose.

³ Children who have received a Pfizer 3 mcg dose starting at 4 years of age and then turn 5 years of age prior to completing the number of XBB.1.5 doses required, should be offered additional XBB.1.5 doses as per **Table 7**.

Table 4: MODERNA SPIKEVAX™ XBB.1.5 schedules for children presenting at age 6 months to 4 years who are NOT immunocompromised

| Vaccination History (non XBB.1.5) | Moderna XBB.1.5 6 mo-4 yr Dosage | Number of doses required ² | Interval between last dose and first XBB.1.5 dose ¹ | Interval between XBB.1.5 doses ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 0 doses | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 2 | N/A | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Pfizer | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 2 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| 2 doses Pfizer | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 3 doses Pfizer | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) | N/A |
| 2 doses Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 2 doses Moderna | | | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.

² For mixed schedules consisting of at least one dose of Pfizer 3 mcg, 3 doses are recommended as per the Pfizer XBB.1.5 schedule in **Table 5**. Either Pfizer or Moderna Spikevax can be used to complete the remaining doses.

Table 5: PFIZER COMIRNATY® XBB.1.5 schedules for children presenting at age 6 months to 4 years who are **NOT immunocompromised**

| Vaccination History (non-XBB.1.5) | Pfizer 6mo-4yr XBB.1.5 Dosage (Maroon cap/label) DILUTE PRIOR TO USE | Number of doses required | Interval between last dose and first XBB.1.5 dose ¹ | Interval between XBB.1.5 doses ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|---|
| 0 doses | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 3 | N/A | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Pfizer | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 2 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses Pfizer | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 1 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 3 doses Pfizer | | | | |
| 2 doses Moderna | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) | N/A |
| 2 doses Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 2 doses Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 2 doses Moderna | | | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.

Table 6: MODERNA SPIKEVAX™ XBB.1.5 schedules for children presenting at age 6 months to 4 years WHO ARE moderately to severely immunocompromised

For a list of conditions, refer to the COVID-19 vaccine chapter in the Canadian Immunization Guide: [canada.ca/CIG – COVID19 Immunocompromised](https://canada.ca/CIG-COVID19-Immunocompromised)

| Vaccination History (non-XBB.1.5) | Moderna XBB.1.5 6 mo-4 yr Dosage | Number of doses required ² | Interval between last dose and first XBB.1.5 dose ¹ | Interval between XBB.1.5 doses ¹ |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 0 doses | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 3 | N/A | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Pfizer | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 3 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses Pfizer | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 2 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses Moderna | | | | |
| 3 doses Pfizer | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| 2 doses Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 2 doses Moderna | | | | |
| 4 doses Pfizer | | | | |
| 3 doses Moderna | 0.25 ml (25 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) | N/A |
| 3 doses Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses of Pfizer and 2 doses of Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose of Pfizer and 3 doses of Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose of Pfizer and 3 doses of Moderna | | | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.

² For mixed schedules consisting of at least one dose of Pfizer 3 mcg, 4 total doses are recommended as per the Pfizer Comirnaty XBB.1.5 schedule in **Table 7**. Either Pfizer or Moderna Spikevax can be used to complete the remaining doses.

Table 7: PFIZER COMIRNATY® XBB.1.5 schedules for children presenting at age 6 months to 4 years WHO ARE moderately to severely immunocompromised

For a list of conditions, refer to the COVID-19 vaccine chapter in the Canadian Immunization Guide: [canada.ca/cig - COVID19 Immunocompromised](https://canada.ca/cig-2022/COVID19/Immunocompromised)

| Vaccination History (non-XBB.1.5) | Pfizer 6 mo -4 yr XBB.1.5 Dosage (Maroon cap /label) DILUTE PRIOR TO USE | Number of doses | Interval between last dose and first XBB.1.5 dose ¹ | Interval between XBB.1.5 doses ¹ |
|--|--|-----------------|--|---|
| 0 doses | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 4 | N/A | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Pfizer | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 3 | 4-8 weeks | 4-8 weeks |
| 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses Moderna | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 2 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| 2 doses Pfizer | | | | |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 3 doses Pfizer | | | | |
| 2 doses Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 1 | 4-8 weeks | N/A |
| 1 dose Pfizer and 2 doses Moderna | | | | |
| 4 doses Pfizer | | | | |
| 3 doses Moderna | 0.2 ml (3 mcg) | 1 | 6 months (min. 3 months) | N/A |
| 3 doses Pfizer and 1 dose Moderna | | | | |
| 2 doses of Pfizer and 2 doses of Moderna | | | | |
| 1 dose of Pfizer and 3 doses of Moderna | | | | |

¹ For those who had previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, an interval of 6 months (min. 3 months) is required.