

October 22, 2021

TO: Saskatchewan Health Authority
Indigenous Services Canada- Saskatchewan Region
Northern Intertribal Health Authority
Saskatchewan Medical Association
College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan
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

Re: COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses to Select Populations – Phase 2B

Dear Colleagues:

The Government of Saskatchewan continues to provide COVID-19 booster doses to select populations in a phased approach. Effective October 25, 2021, the following individuals are eligible to receive booster doses as part of Phase 2B as noted in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Phase 2B Eligible Populations

Eligible Populations	Interval from dose 2 to dose 3
Individuals aged 65 years and older	6 months
Individuals living in the Far North and those living on First Nation communities, aged 50 years and older	6 months
All health care workers	6 months
Individuals born in 2009 or earlier with underlying health conditions that are clinically extremely vulnerable including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People with severe respiratory conditions, including all cystic fibrosis, severe asthma and severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) 2. People with rare diseases that significantly increase the risk of infections (such as homozygous sickle cell disease) 3. People who had their spleen removed 4. People with very significant developmental disabilities that increase risk (such as Down’s syndrome) 5. People on dialysis or with chronic kidney disease (stage 5) 6. People with significant neuromuscular conditions requiring respiratory support 	6 months

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.

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 recommended to receive one mRNA vaccine as their third/additional/booster dose unless there is contraindication to mRNA vaccine. If the individual wants AstraZeneca for their third dose, pending supply availability and no contraindications to this vaccine, a risk-benefit discussion with the immunizer is required for informed consent.

Those with eligible health conditions may receive a letter from the Ministry of Health or their physician with instructions on how to receive their booster. Other individuals may call or go online to book their appointment with their care provider if applicable. Healthcare workers may be immunized at their workplace, at an immunization clinic or a pharmacy.

Sincerely,



Dr. Saqib Shahab
Chief Medical Health Officer

Table 2: Additional COVID-19 Dose Recommendations

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.