

April 25, 2022

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

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Clarification of Expansions and Revisions to COVID-19 Second Booster Dose Eligibility

Effective April 26, 2022 – see Table 1 next page

Second booster (fourth) doses are to be provided to the following group four months or longer after receipt of their previous booster dose, as soon as is operationally possible:

- All individuals 50 years of age and older living in Saskatchewan.

Currently eligible to receive second booster doses – see Table 1 next page

The following populations are currently eligible to receive their second booster (fourth) doses four months or longer after receipt of their previous booster:

- All individuals 70 years of age and older living in the community.
- All individuals 50 years of age and older living in First Nations and Metis communities.
- All individuals 50 years of age and older in the Northern Service Administration District (NSAD) – Far North in Saskatchewan.
- Adults 18 years and older living in Long Term care facilities, or other congregate living settings that provide care for seniors (personal care homes and assisted living facilities).
- Moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals are eligible for a second booster (fifth) dose four months after their first booster dose when they meet the age criteria noted above.
- Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals are eligible to receive a second booster (fourth) dose four months after their first booster dose when they meet the age criteria noted above.

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Table 1: Populations Eligible for Second Boosters

Population	# Doses in Primary Series	Minimum Interval to 1 st Booster	Minimum Interval to 2 nd Booster
70+ healthy & clinically vulnerable individuals (50+ beginning April 26, 2022)	2	4 months	4 months
50+ healthy & clinically vulnerable individuals living in First Nations & Metis communities and the Northern Service Administration District (NSAD)- Far North in SK	2	4 months	4 months
Adults 18 + living in Long Term care facilities, Personal Care Homes or other congregate living settings that provide care for seniors	2	4 months	4 months
70+ immunocompromised individuals (50+ beginning April 26, 2022)	3	3 months	4 months
50+ immunocompromised individuals living in First Nations & Metis communities and the Northern Service Administration District (NSAD)- Far North in SK	3	3 months	4 months

Notes:

- Detailed information regarding eligible populations and intervals for booster doses is available at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine/vaccine-delivery-phases#booster-doses>.
- This information will be available in the *COVID-19 Contraindication and Precautions Background* (April 25, 2022) document posted at <https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/Manuals/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>.
- **mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is preferred for booster doses but if unavailable, contraindicated or the individual refuses mRNA vaccine, then a dose of AstraZeneca, Janssen or Novavax may be administered to those 18 years and older if there are no contraindications.**
- For the one-dose Janssen vaccine, the first booster dose (mRNA recommended) is to be given at least two months later. The second booster dose (mRNA recommended) is to be given four months after the first booster dose once eligible.
- For AstraZeneca, Janssen, Novavax and Pfizer, all booster dose recipients are to receive a full dose booster (0.5 ml for AZ, Janssen or Novavax, or 0.3 ml for Pfizer 12+).
 - **Novavax, AstraZeneca and Janssen vaccines are not approved for use in those younger than 18 years old.**
- For Moderna’s Spikevax, the booster dosage depends on the risk factor:
 - 0.5 ml (100 mcg) for those 70 years and older.
 - 0.5 ml (100 mcg) for long term care (special care homes), personal care homes and seniors’ assisted living residents, regardless of age.
 - 0.5 ml (100 mcg) for immunocompromised individuals 12 years and older.
 - 0.25 ml (50 mcg) for all others eligible for booster doses (those who are non-immunocompromised and younger than age 70 years).

- The use of the Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine is preferred to the use of the Moderna vaccine in adolescents and adults younger than 30 years of age to further minimize the rare risk of myocarditis and/or pericarditis following vaccination in this age group.
- There is no evidence that recurrent doses beyond second boosters are needed for any population at this time.

Sincerely,



Dr. Saqib Shahab
Chief Medical Health Officer