

September 28, 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: Expanded Eligibility of Moderna Spikevax® Bivalent Original/Omicron BA.1 Vaccine**

**Effective September 29, 2022:**

**All adults 18 years of age and older may receive a 0.5 ml Moderna Spikevax® Bivalent booster dose four months after receipt of their last COVID-19 dose regardless of how many doses they have previously received as long as their primary series was completed and a minimum interval of three months has elapsed since last their dose.**

**Eligibility Details**

Detailed information regarding eligibility and intervals for bivalent 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>.

**Revised: Vaccine Administration Interval after COVID-19 infection**

Emerging evidence indicates that a longer interval between SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination with any COVID-19 vaccine is associated with improved immune responses to COVID-19 vaccines. **It is recommended that COVID-19 booster doses be offered at an interval of three months after a previous COVID-19 infection.** However, a booster dose can be offered earlier (anytime upon recovery) based on operational considerations, or upon individual request.

**Other**

- It is not known at this time when and if future booster doses will be required.
- Monovalent COVID-19 vaccines are to be administered to start and complete a COVID-19 primary immunization series.

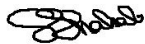
Clinical trials have shown that Moderna Spikevax® Bivalent vaccine triggers a strong immune response against both Omicron (BA.1) and the original strain, as well as a good immune response against BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants. It also has a similar safety profile to the original Spikevax® vaccine.

This vaccine **does not require dilution** and may be given concomitantly with other vaccines. However, a four week precautionary interval is recommended between COVID-19 vaccine and smallpox/monkeypox vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccine details are 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/covid-19-vaccine-information/covid-19-vaccine-details> and in the COVID-19 Immunization Manual <https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/Manuals/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>.

Refer to Chapter 10 of the Saskatchewan Immunization Manual for all COVID-19 vaccine information <https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/Manuals/Documents/sim-chapter10.pdf>.

Sincerely,



Dr. Saqib Shahab  
Chief Medical Health Officer

cc: Saskatchewan Medical Health Officers