

October 14, 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: Fall COVID-19 Bivalent Booster Program Details**

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) published *Updated guidance on COVID-19 vaccine booster doses in Canada* on October 7, 2022 at <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/guidance-covid-19-vaccine-booster-doses.pdf>.

This letter further details the fall COVID-19 bivalent booster program, as Pfizer BioNTech’s COMIRNATY® Original & Omicron BA.4/BA.5 bivalent vaccine was licensed October 7, 2022, by Health Canada. Note that this vaccine does not require dilution.

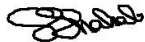
Date Eligible	Eligibility Age	Number of Doses and Interval from Previous Dose
Sep. 29, 2022	18+ years	<p><b>1 dose</b> – at least four months (min. three months) after a primary series or a previous monovalent booster dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderna Spikevax Bivalent: 0.5 ml (50 mcg)</li> </ul>
Oct. 17, 2022	18+ years	<p><b>1 dose</b> – at least four months (min. three months) after a primary series or a previous monovalent booster dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pfizer Comirnaty Bivalent: 0.3 ml (30 mcg)</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderna Spikevax Bivalent: 0.5 ml (50 mcg) – is the preferred mRNA vaccine brand for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised.</li> </ul>
	12-17 years	<p><b>1 dose</b> – at least four months (min. three months) after a primary series or a previous monovalent booster dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pfizer Comirnaty Bivalent: 0.3 ml (30 mcg)</li> </ul> <p><b>For moderately to severely immunocompromised only:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderna Spikevax Bivalent: 0.5 ml (50 mcg) – is the preferred mRNA vaccine brand for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised as an off-label recommendation.</li> </ul>

Neither the Moderna Spikevax bivalent nor the Pfizer Comirnaty bivalent are licensed to be used as a primary COVID-19 immunization series. However, the Ministry of Health supports permissive administration of either bivalent vaccine for this purpose with informed consent if an individual requests to start or complete their COVID-19 primary series with bivalent vaccine. Consult the original Moderna and Pfizer vaccine information pages in the Saskatchewan Immunization Manual for dose scheduling and intervals  
<https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/Manuals/Documents/sim-chapter10.pdf>.

COVID-19 vaccine details will be 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> very soon.

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