

# COVID-19 Immunization Update

For Health Care Providers in Oxford County, Elgin County,  
and the City of St. Thomas



October 15, 2021

## An Update from Dr. Joyce Lock, Medical Officer of Health

*Please share with staff as appropriate.*

### What You Need to Know This Week

#### 1. SWPH REGION VACCINATION RATES

- Data from the Ministry of Health as of October 14:
  - Percentage of SWPH 12+ population with at least one dose: 86.4%
  - Percentage of SWPH 12+ population with both doses: 82.1%

#### 2. OUTREACH TO UNVACCINATED ONTARIANS

- As part of its Last Mile strategy, the Ministry of Health is using an automated voice message service to reach the 720,000 eligible Ontarians who have yet to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Information is provided for how and where to get a vaccine in their community.
- In the Southwestern Public Health region, there are 9,000 individuals who are being contact through this service. **Important to note that these are non-rostered individuals (e.g. rostered patients will not receive a call).**

#### 3. VAXFACTS: RESOURCES FOR VACCINE HESITANCY

- Scarborough Health Network's VaxFacts has valuable resources for individuals who are vaccine hesitant.
- **In the Southwestern Public Health region, there are nearly 12,000 citizens aged 12-29 who have not had a first dose and may benefit from discussions regarding vaccine hesitancy.**
- [Visit the website](#) for printable posters, FAQs and guides for productive conversations to aid in your patient discussions.

#### 4. VACCINE CONSULT SERVICE FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES

- SickKids hospital has launched a Vaccine Consult Service for individuals and families to speak with a Registered Nurse if they have questions about vaccines for youth.

Southwestern Public Health  
www.swpublichealth.ca  
1-800-922-0096



- Appointments are available Monday to Friday. [Visit the website](#) for details to share with your patients.

## 5. THIRD DOSE ELIGIBILITY & GUIDANCE

- The Ministry has [expanded eligibility for third doses](#) to additional high-risk populations for added protection against the Delta variant.
- [The recommendation](#) includes guidance on who is eligible, immunosuppressant prescriptions that are now eligible, and process for third dose administration to high-risk retirement homes by pharmacists.

## 6. INFLUENZA ALLOCATIONS

- Until November 1, influenza allocations are provided for high-risk clients and healthcare workers only.
- **ACTION:** If you have not yet picked up your initial allocation (including high-dose vaccine), please do so at your earliest convenience.