

COVID-19 Immunization Update

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



Week of June 7, 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. EARLY SECOND DOSE ELIGIBILITY

- Visit www.swpublichealth.ca/eligibility for a full list of who is currently eligible.
- On June 10, these individuals will become eligible to book an earlier second dose, which is optional:
 - People aged 70 and older
 - People who had a first dose appointment on or before April 18th
- To reschedule, visit www.covidvaccineLM.ca or call 1-800-922-0096 ext. 9 to have assistance from a member of the Southwestern Public Health team.
- Individuals who have more than one appointment (such as for a family member) associated with their email address OR cell phone number will be able to re-schedule online as well.

2. REMINDER: VACCINE BRAND MIXING

- On June 3, Ontario updated its [AstraZeneca second dose guidance](#).
- Key highlights:
 - First and second dose of different COVID-19 vaccine can be safely combined.
 - Effective June 4, allow Ontarians who have received a first dose of AstraZeneca to choose either a second dose of AstraZeneca or an mRNA vaccine for their second dose.
 - Both options have been shown by NACI to be safe and provide strong protection against COVID-19; they also both will count as a completed series.
 - All second dose intervals will be provided at the recommended 12-week interval.
- On June 9, Southwestern Public Health [provided additional guidance](#) locally.

3. SWPH CLINICS BECOME PFIZER-EXCLUSIVE

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



- As of June 9, all three Southwestern Public Health mass immunization clinics will only offer Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine. [Moderna will no longer be on offer](#), due to supply issues.
- Clients residing in congregate settings like group homes, clients who are homebound/bedbound or others who were reached by our mobile vaccination team can still expect to receive Moderna for second doses in the upcoming weeks.
- No action is required for individuals who had a first dose of Moderna and will accept Pfizer.
- Those who wish to have their second dose be Moderna are encouraged to seek their second dose at pharmacy or primary care who may have supply.
- **If you have Moderna supply and appointments available, you may consider communicating with your patients so they are aware.**

4. WEBINAR: PRIMARY CARE VACCINATION SUPPORT

- The Primary Care Vaccination Quality Improvement Team is hosting a webinar for primary care providers to share learning, tools and strategies for COVID-19 vaccine delivery in Ontario.
- June 17 and July 8 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- [Register to participate.](#)

5. CANCELLING AN APPOINTMENT

- We have a new function for people who book elsewhere and need to cancel their appointment with Southwestern Public Health. Visit <http://swpublichealth.ca/eligibility#CancelMyVaccine>
- Important: Once an appointment is cancelled, you can not reverse it. If you need to reschedule an appointment, please go to www.covidvaccinelm.ca - do not cancel your appointment unless you have another appointment booked.

6. SUPPORT FOR CHOOSING VACCINES FOR DOSE 2

- This is a complex decision for many patients, and will warrant conversations with them.
- For Pharmacy Providers: Reference the newly released “Pharmacy 5-in-5” titled Choosing Between AstraZeneca, Pfizer, and Moderna for Dose 2 by Kelly Grindrod and her team at the University of Waterloo. [Read summary.](#)