

HPMVAC Update: June 25, 2021

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WHAT'S NEW

- Eligibility expanded for shortened second dose intervals
- Vaccine mixing and the importance of a second dose
- Registering a vaccine received outside of Ontario or Canada

Vaccine eligibility

- Individuals age 12 or older are eligible for Pfizer-BioNTech (must be minimum 12 years or older at time of vaccination)
- Individuals age 18 or older are eligible for Moderna (must be minimum 18 years or older at time of vaccination)
- See Complete Eligibility List in Appendix A
- Individuals who are 18 or older, and have received their 1st dose of mRNA vaccine will soon be eligible to book an earlier second dose for a future HPPH clinic. ***NEW**
 - The HPPH booking system will be able to process these requests by noon of Monday, June 28.
- See Complete Eligibility List in Appendix B

Vaccine availability

- Huron Perth continues to administer every vaccine received.
- HPPH does not determine which vaccines are received and allocated for HPPH and Primary Care clinics; Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna are the COVID-19 vaccines available in the region currently for HPPH mass vaccination clinics.
- Several pharmacies also offer Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. Please visit [COVID-19 Pharmacy Vaccine](#)

[Locations](#) to learn more.

Vaccine mixing

- Pfizer and Moderna are interchangeable mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, as endorsed by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), and the Ontario Ministry of Health. This means that you can receive one vaccine for your first dose and the other vaccine for your second dose.
- Being fully vaccinated is very important. Two doses of vaccine – whether the same product or a mix of two vaccines – provides safe and highly effective protection against the COVID-19 virus and variants, including the highly transmissible Delta variant. It will also count as a completed vaccination series.
- HPMVAC strongly encourages everyone to get their vaccine as soon as possible, and to make their second dose a priority once they are eligible. The more people who are fully vaccinated, the less chance of COVID-19 spreading in our communities.
- All clinics on the HPPH website now show which vaccine is expected to be administered. If you would like to receive a specific vaccine, then book into an HPPH clinic that offers that vaccine. However, due to supply changes, we cannot always guarantee the availability of a specific product. In that case, we will offer an appropriate alternative. You can then decide if you wish to proceed and receive the vaccine.
 - Pfizer will continue to be given to youth 12-17 at clinics, in keeping with approved vaccine for this age group.
- If you want to rebook into a different clinic, you must first cancel your current appointment. However, please remember that we cannot guarantee which vaccine will be available at a future appointment.
- You can also book an appointment for a vaccination at a participating pharmacy. You can see a list of local pharmacies and which vaccine they are administering by visiting <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/vaccine-locations>. If you book an appointment at a pharmacy, please cancel your HPPH appointment by emailing VaccineCancellation@hpph.ca or call us on our booking line at 833-753-2098.

Second doses

For individuals who received mRNA vaccine as first dose

- HPMVAC and partners are gradually introducing shortened second-dose intervals for people who received an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine as their first dose.
- Shortened interval means that you are eligible to receive your second dose less than 16 weeks after your first dose, based on appointment availability and vaccine supply.
- An appointment for a second dose must be at least 28 days after a first dose of Moderna or Pfizer.
- These shortened intervals apply to people who have received an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) as their first dose. Please see AstraZeneca section for further information on second doses for AstraZeneca.
- Vaccination appointments can be made at HPPH clinics or pharmacies.
- Currently the following groups, who have received an mRNA vaccine as their first dose, can book their second dose appointment for a future HPPH clinic at a shortened interval:
 - Anyone who received an mRNA vaccine as their first vaccine dose on or before May 30, 2021.
 - Individuals aged 70 and older (born in 1951 or earlier) who received an mRNA vaccine as their first dose.
- Individuals who are 18 or older, and have received their 1st dose of mRNA vaccine will soon be eligible to book an earlier second dose for a future HPPH clinic.
 - The HPPH booking system will be able to process these requests by noon of Monday, June 28.
- The above groups can also contact a participating pharmacy for a second dose appointment at a shortened interval
- Certain medical conditions are not only eligible for the shortened interval, but should be done as close as possible to the interval on the product monograph.
 - If you received an mRNA vaccine as your first dose AND fall under the following conditions:
 - Individuals on immunosuppressive therapy who are taking an anti-CD20 agent (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab)

- Please speak to your healthcare provider first, as they can help you with the best timing for your vaccine given your treatment plan.
 - Transplant recipients (including solid organ transplants and hematopoietic stem cell transplants)
 - Malignant hematologic disorders on immunocompromising therapy (chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy)
 - Nonhematologic malignant solid tumors on immunocompromising therapy (chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy); excludes individuals receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy
 - Individuals with an imminent start date for any of above therapies or treatments. ***NEW**
- then we will try to book you as close to product monograph as possible. Call HPPH if an appointment time within 28 days (of your first dose) is not available.

For individuals who received AstraZeneca as first dose

- If you received AstraZeneca as your first dose, you should receive your second vaccine (AZ or an mRNA) 8-12 weeks later for optimal immune response. (Note the interval related to mRNA 2nd doses may change with the availability of supply). Some people, in consultation with their health care provider, may need to book earlier than 8-12 weeks due to their medical treatment schedule.
 - Ontarians who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine can choose to either receive a second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine, or an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine for their second dose.
 - Both of these options are safe and provide strong protection against COVID-19. In addition, they will count as a completed vaccine series.
 - Both options are at a recommended 8-12-week interval except for the following:
 - An individual should talk to their healthcare provider if they have one of the following conditions and an 8-12-week interval would affect the timing of their treatment:
 - Individuals on Immunosuppressive Therapy - Individuals in the authorized age group who are taking an anti-CD20 agent (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab)
 - Transplant recipients (including solid organ transplants and hematopoietic stem cell transplants).
 - Stable, active treatment for malignant hematologic disorders and non-hematologic solid tumour (excluding individuals receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy).
 - Individuals undergoing hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
 - Individuals with an imminent start date for any of above therapies or treatments.
- *NEW**

Opting for AstraZeneca as your second dose:

- Individuals who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine and who would like their second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine (provided at the 8 to 12-week interval), can contact the pharmacy where they received their first dose to book an appointment.
- Anyone who went to the April 20 or April 22 Primary Care AstraZeneca clinics in Goderich or Stratford can contact a participating local pharmacy that may have AstraZeneca second doses.
 - **Bayfield:** [Pharmasave Michael's Pharmacy](#)
 - **Exeter:** [Your Independent Grocer](#)
 - **Goderich:** [Pharmasave Michael's Pharmacy](#)
 - **Listowel:** [Listowel Remedy's Rx](#)
 - **Mitchell:** [Walther's IDA Pharmacy](#)
 - **St. Marys:** [Jackson's Guardian Pharmacy](#)
 - Please visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/vaccine-locations> for a list of other participating pharmacies across the province who may have AstraZeneca.
- If you're not able to get to a participating pharmacy and you want AstraZeneca as your second dose, contact your primary care provider.

Opting for an mRNA vaccine as your second dose:

- Eligible individuals who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine and would like a second dose of mRNA vaccine (provided at the 8 to 12-week interval) can schedule their second dose appointment at a future HPPH clinic through the HPPH online or telephone booking system.
OR
- Individuals may also book their second dose appointment at a participating pharmacy where the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines are administered.
OR
- Visit your primary care provider's website or contact the office for details on how they are administering vaccines.

How to book a second dose

- HPPH does not book second dose appointments when you get your first dose. You must book your second dose once you are eligible.
- Use the [HPPH second dose calculator](#) to find out when you can receive your second dose. If you don't qualify for the shortened dose interval, then you will be eligible to receive your second dose between 14.5-16 weeks after your first dose.
- Once you know your earliest appointment date, visit the HPPH booking system at www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking or call 1-833-753-2098 to see available clinics.
 - If your earliest possible second dose date falls within the date range of an upcoming HPPH clinic, please book an appointment. If clinics are not yet available during the time you are due for your second dose, please check back for future clinics.
 - You can also subscribe to the booking webpage to get alerts when new clinics are added.
- If you received your first dose through your primary care provider or at an HPPH community clinic, and are eligible for a shortened dose interval, please go ahead and book at an HPPH community clinic for your second dose OR visit your primary care provider's website or contact the office for details on how they are administering vaccines.
- If you book an appointment before your earliest possible appointment date, and you do not qualify for the earlier dose schedule, you will be turned away at the clinic.
- Remember that Pfizer and Moderna are interchangeable mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. This means that you can receive one vaccine for your first dose and the other vaccine for your second dose.
- All clinics on the HPPH website now show which vaccine is expected to be administered. If you would like to receive a specific vaccine, then book into an HPPH clinic that offers that vaccine. However, due to supply changes, we cannot always guarantee the availability of a specific product. In that case, we will offer an appropriate alternative. You can then decide if you wish to proceed and receive the vaccine.
 - Pfizer will continue to be given to youth 12-17 at clinics, in keeping with approved vaccine for this age group.
- If you want to rebook into a different clinic, you must first cancel your current appointment. However, please remember that we cannot guarantee which vaccine will be available at a future appointment.
- You can also book an appointment for a vaccination at a participating pharmacy. You can see a list of local pharmacies and which vaccine they are administering by visiting <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/vaccine-locations>. If you book an appointment at a pharmacy, please cancel your HPPH appointment by emailing VaccineCancellation@hpph.ca or call us on our booking line at 833-753-2098.

About HPPH Clinics

- HPPH continues to add vaccine clinics as vaccine supply is confirmed. Please check www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking for latest availability.
- Please remember that there are no walk-in, same-day doses available at HPPH clinics **unless we announce a walk-in clinic. These announcements will be made on media or social media:**
 - www.facebook.com/HuronPerthPublicHealth
 - www.twitter.com/HPPublicHealth

- Please do not come to an HPPH clinic if you have not been given an appointment time OR if a walk-in has not been announced. There will not be vaccine doses available.
- Book an appointment at www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking or by calling 1-833-753-2098. Online booking is recommended due to high call volumes.
- We thank everyone who are cancelling unneeded appointments as we still need to reduce no-shows. Please continue to cancel any unneeded appointments. A new feature has been added to the website to easily cancel appointments. Go to <http://www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking> and choose the [Click Here to Cancel your Appointment](#) box or call the booking line at 1-833-753-2098; press 2 (two). Please include your first and last name and the date, time, and location of your scheduled appointment.
- If possible, please bring a completed Consent form that you received with your booking confirmation.

Registering a vaccination received outside of Ontario or Canada

- If you have received one or more doses of a COVID-19 vaccine outside of the Province of Ontario, you should provide your proof of immunization to Huron Perth Public Health. HPPH will add it to COVaxON, the provincial vaccination system.
- Ensuring vaccination information is up-to-date allows individuals to:
 - Book a second dose appointment (for those who have only received one dose of a two-dose vaccine).
 - Receive an Ontario vaccination receipt which can be used to show immunization status.
 - Share their COVID-19 immunization records with their health care providers and for other uses required by provincial law.
- Having more complete vaccination coverage information also helps the province as it uses vaccination coverage to help inform re-opening plans.
- A new feature has been added to the website to easily register vaccinations received outside of Ontario or Canada. Go to www.hpph.ca/vaccine and click the button that says “Submit your **COVID-19 Out-of-Province Dose Documentation**”.

Current Vaccination progress

- HPPH and partners continue to use every vaccine we receive. We remain very pleased by the high vaccine uptake in our region. Youth aged 12-17 were prioritized for vaccinations between June 14 and 26, and 51% of individuals in that age group have now received a first dose.
- As of June 23, we are reporting 114,082 vaccine doses administered in Huron Perth by HPPH and partners.
- For Huron Perth residents aged 12 and over, 72.1% have received one dose of vaccine, and 21.7% are fully vaccinated. For those aged 18 and over (the metric the province is using for the Roadmap to Reopen), 74% have received one dose and 23% are fully vaccinated.
- HPPH updates Huron-Perth vaccination coverage information on a separate dashboard available at our COVID-19 Data in Huron and Perth page. You can also directly visit the HPPH [COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Dashboard](#).

Also remember

- Anyone who has received a first dose, or both doses, of a COVID-19 vaccine must continue to follow all public health measures because a significant number of our population must be vaccinated with both doses to provide enough protection. As long as COVID is still circulating in Ontario, it is important to continue public health measures, even if you are vaccinated.

For More Information

Please visit www.hpph.ca/vaccine for more information, or contact your HPMVAC sector representative. The HPMVAC membership list is available at www.hpph.ca/vaccine. You can also call HPPH at 888.221.2133 for more

information.

About HPMVAC

- The Huron Perth COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Advisory Committee (HPMVAC) is a collaborative of multiple relevant sector stakeholder members from our Huron and Perth communities.
- Under the leadership of Huron Perth Public Health, our table has been meeting to inform COVID-19 mass vaccination planning and operations for our communities.
- This memo serves to update you, our community members and partners. Please note, guidance provided is subject to change. This reflects the evolving nature of COVID-19 and related supply chain logistics.
- Note for Partners: Vaccine doses can be maximized through use of 1mL syringes. We ask our healthcare partners to consider using alternate syringe sizes where appropriate to preserve all 1mL syringes for vaccination purposes in our communities.

APPENDIX A – ELIGIBILITY for First Dose at HPPH Clinics

- Individuals age 12 or older (must be at least 12 years old or older) for Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination
- Individuals age 18 or older for Moderna vaccination

APPENDIX B – Individuals eligible for shortened second-dose interval

For individuals who received mRNA vaccine as first dose

The following groups, if they have received an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) as a first dose, are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at a shortened second dose interval (less than 16 weeks after first dose), depending on vaccine supply

- Anyone who received their first vaccine dose on or before May 30, 2021. ***NEW**
- Individuals who are 18 or older, and have received their 1st dose of mRNA vaccine will soon be eligible to book an earlier second dose for a future HPPH clinic. ***NEW**
 - The HPPH booking system will be able to process these requests by noon of Monday, June 28.
- Individuals aged 70 and older (born in 1951 or earlier)
- Residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, Elder Care Lodges and Assisted Living facilities, as these groups are at the greatest risk of both exposure to COVID-19 and serious illness and death.
 - Please note: the Ministry has not designated any eligible Assisted Living Facilities in Huron Perth to qualify for the dose interval indicated in product monographs.
- Indigenous adults
- Eligible [high-risk health care workers](#)
- Essential Caregivers of long-term care and retirement homes
 - Please note: this does not include primary essential caregivers. Primary essential caregivers will receive their second dose of vaccine at the extended dose interval of 16 weeks.

Groups who should receive second dose as close to product monograph as possible:

- Individuals on Immunosuppressive Therapy - Individuals in the authorized age group who are taking an anti-CD20 agent (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab)
 - Please speak to your healthcare provider first, as they can help you with the best timing for your vaccine given your treatment plan.
- Transplant recipients (including solid organ transplants and hematopoietic stem cell transplants).
- Stable, active treatment for malignant hematologic disorders and non-hematologic solid tumour (excluding individuals receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy).
- If you have one of the above two medical conditions, please contact your primary care provider.
- Individuals undergoing hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
- Individuals with an imminent start date for any of above therapies or treatments. ***NEW**

For individuals who received AstraZeneca vaccine as first dose

- If you received AstraZeneca as your first dose, you should receive your second vaccine (AZ or an mRNA) 8 -12 weeks later for optimal immune response. (Note the interval related to mRNA 2nd doses may change with the availability of supply). Some people, in consultation with their health care provider, may need to book earlier than 8-12 weeks due to their medical treatment schedule.
- Ontarians who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine can choose to either receive a second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine, or an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine for their

second dose.

- Both of these options are safe and provide strong protection against COVID-19. In addition, they will count as a completed vaccine series.
- Both options are at a recommended 8 to 12-week interval except for the following:
 - An individual should talk to their healthcare provider if they have one of the following conditions and an 8 to 12-week interval would affect the timing of their treatment:
 - Individuals on Immunosuppressive Therapy - Individuals in the authorized age group who are taking an anti-CD20 agent (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab)
 - Transplant recipients (including solid organ transplants and hematopoietic stem cell transplants).
 - Stable, active treatment for malignant hematologic disorders and non-hematologic solid tumour (excluding individuals receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy).
 - Individuals undergoing hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
 - Individuals with an imminent start date for any of above therapies or treatments. ***NEW**