

April 11, 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: Expansions and Revisions to COVID-19 Booster Dose Eligibility

A. Effective April 11, 2022:

Second booster doses are to be provided to the following groups four months or longer after receipt of their previous booster dose, as soon as is operationally possible:

- All individuals 70 years of age and older living in Saskatchewan.
- All individuals 50 years of age and older living in First Nations
- All individuals 50 years of age and older living in the Northern Service Administration District (NSAD) – Far North in Saskatchewan.

Booster dose interval change from five months to four months for the following populations:

- Healthy individuals aged 12 years of age and older (interval applies to first booster doses).
- Adults living in a long term care home or other congregate living setting for seniors 65 years and older (interval applies to first and second booster doses).

B: Effective the First Week in May (date to be announced):

Second booster doses are to be provided to the following group four months or longer after receipt of their previous booster dose, as soon as is operationally possible:

- All individuals 50 years of age and older living in Saskatchewan.

Booster dose and dosage recommendations that have not changed:

- First booster doses continue to be provided to moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals 12 years and older who qualify (or qualify in the future) for a three dose primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine, **three months** following their third dose of the primary series.

- For the one-dose Janssen vaccine, the first booster dose is to be given at least two months later and mRNA vaccine is recommended. The second booster dose is to be given four months after the first booster dose once eligible.
- For AstraZeneca, Janssen, Novavax and Pfizer, all booster dose recipients are to receive a full dose booster (0.5 ml for AZ, Janssen or Novavax, or 0.3 ml for Pfizer 12+).
- For Moderna's Spikevax, the booster dosage depends on the risk factor:
 - 0.5 ml (100 mcg) for those 70 years and older.
 - 0.5 ml (100 mcg) for long term care (special care homes), personal care homes and seniors' assisted living residents, regardless of age.
 - 0.5 ml (100 mcg) for immunocompromised individuals 12 years and older.
 - 0.25 ml (50 mcg) for all others eligible for booster doses (those who are non-immunocompromised and younger than age 70 years).

The use of the Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA booster dose is preferred to the use of the Moderna mRNA booster dose in adolescents and adults younger than 30 years of age to further minimize the rare risk of myocarditis and/or pericarditis following vaccination in this age group.

Detailed information regarding eligible populations and intervals for 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>.

Sincerely,



Dr. Saqib Shahab
Chief Medical Health Officer