



**From:** Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Chief Medical Officer of Health

**To:** Regional Health Authorities, Pharmacists, Physicians and Other Primary Care Providers

**Re:** COVID-19 Vaccine Program Update

**Date:** July 13, 2022

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The Department of Health and Community Services (HCS) continues to collaborate with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and other provinces and territories to monitor the global COVID-19 situation. Cases of COVID-19 have begun to increase once again, both across the country and in our province. HCS will continue to monitor the provincial epidemiology of COVID-19 to inform guidance and recommendations with the goal to maintain COVID-19 activity at levels manageable in the health system and society as a whole.

Vaccination against COVID-19 continues to be one of the most effective ways of preventing severe illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19. HCS will be expanding eligibility criteria for a fourth dose of COVID-19. **Effective July 20, 2022, individuals 50 years of age and older can receive a second booster of COVID-19 vaccine at least 20 weeks from their first booster dose.** Individuals can receive either Pfizer-BioNTech Cormirnaty or Moderna Spikevax vaccine for their second booster dose. If using Pfizer-BioNTech Cormirnaty vaccine, 30mcg (0.3mL) should be administered. If using Moderna Spikevax vaccine, 50mcg (0.25mLs) should be administered. If the individual is unwilling or unable to receive an mRNA vaccine, Nuvaxovid vaccine may be offered as their second booster dose. Individuals 50 years of age and older can reach out to their Regional Health Authority (RHA), physician or pharmacist to schedule an appointment.

On June 29, 2022, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) provided guidance on a [fall COVID-19 booster campaign](#) for individuals 12 years of age and older. Individuals will be encouraged to receive their booster dose 6 months from their last vaccine, regardless of its sequence, or 6 months from infection. A shortened interval of 3 months could be utilized, dependent upon increased epidemiologic risk. This program has not started in Newfoundland and Labrador, we anticipate a start date late August or early September.

HCS will continue to provide updates as they become available. Visit the [COVID-19 website](#) for more information on provincial COVID-19 vaccine recommendations.