

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

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

**Re:** Update on Imvamune Vaccine

**Date:** August 18, 2022

The Department of Health and Community Services, in collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada, has secured additional doses of Imvamune vaccine. Eligibility criteria for the use of Imvamune vaccine has expanded to include people at higher risk of being exposed to monkeypox as a preventative measure.

Starting Monday, August 22, 2022 two-spirit people, transgender people, and cisgender males who self-identify as belonging to the gay, bisexual, queer, or men who have sex with men community, and meet at least one of the following criteria, are eligible for preventative vaccination with Imvamune:

- Have had sex with two or more partners in the last 90 days, or are planning to do so:
- Have received a diagnosis of a sexually transmitted infection in the last six months;
- Have attended, worked, or volunteered in venues or other locations for sexual contact within the past 90 days or may be planning to do so, whether in or outside of the province.

The vaccine will also be offered to sexual contacts of individuals in the above eligibility groups as well as to people who engage in, or plan to engage in, sex work.

Preventative immunization for eligible people can be booked through Public Health Offices. Please refer to the following links:

Central Health: Public Health Offices

Eastern Health: <u>Health Services – Eastern Health</u>

Labrador Grenfell Health Contact Us – Labrador-Grenfell Health (lghealth.ca)

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Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Health and Community Services Office of the Chief Medical Officer

Western Health Public Health Offices

Individuals who are a close contact to someone with monkeypox will continue to be eligible for post-exposure vaccination. They should contact their local public health office to schedule their vaccination.

Additional information on Monkeypox is also available at <u>Monkeypox - Health and</u> <u>Community Services (gov.nl.ca)</u>

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