

Monkeypox October Imvamune® Updates

Update to York Region health care providers as of October 19, 2022

The Ministry of Health recently updated their [Monkeypox Vaccine \(Imvamune®\) Guidance for Health Care Providers](#) to include the fact that all individuals that have received a first dose of Imvamune® for pre-exposure vaccination against monkeypox can now receive a second dose 28 days later at a York Region Public Health clinic.

Imvamune® Highlights

Imvamune® should now be offered as a **two-dose primary series** for individuals currently eligible for pre-exposure or post-exposure vaccination (who still have ongoing risk factors). There should be at least **28 days between the first and second dose**. Individuals that have received a first dose **may now access a second dose** if it is more than 28 days since their first dose.

With respect to **co-administration with other vaccines**, if vaccine timing can be planned, it is recommended to wait at least **four weeks for live vaccines (or COVID-19 vaccines)** or **two weeks for inactive vaccines** (e.g., influenza vaccine) before or after administration of Imvamune®. However, the administration of Imvamune® as pre-or post-exposure vaccination **should not be delayed in an individual who has recently received another vaccine**.

Pre-Exposure Vaccination

York Region Public Health continues to offer no-cost monkeypox vaccine clinics for pre-exposure vaccination for eligible individuals at higher risk of exposure or infection. Recent changes to the provincial eligibility criteria are **in bold** below:

- (a) Two-spirited, non-binary, transgender, cisgender, **intersex** or **gender-queer** individuals who self-identify or have sexual partners who self-identify as belonging to the gay, bisexual, **pansexual** and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) community AND at least one of the following:
- **Had a confirmed sexually transmitted infection within the last year**
 - Have or **are planning to have** two or more sexual partners or **are in a relationship where at least one of the partners may have other sexual partners**
 - Have attended venues for sexual contact recently or may be planning to, or who work/volunteer in these settings (examples of these settings include bath houses or sex clubs)
 - Have had anonymous sex (e.g., using hookup apps) recently or may be planning to
 - Are a sexual contact of an individual who engages in sex work
- (b) Individuals who **self-identify** as engaging in sex work or are planning to, **regardless of self-identified sex or gender**

Household and/or sexual contacts of those identified for pre-exposure vaccination eligibility in parts (a) and (b) above AND are moderately to severely immunocompromised or pregnant may be at higher risk for severe illness from a monkeypox infection. These individuals may be considered for pre-exposure vaccination and should contact their health care provider for more information.

Additional guidance and commonly asked questions are available on York Region's [Monkeypox Information for Health Professionals](#) webpage, as well as on the Ministry of Health's [monkeypox webpage](#) under [Health Sector Resources](#).

Contact York Region Public Health

For questions, issues or reports of any disease of public health significance (DOPHS), contact York Region Public Health's Control of Infectious Disease team:

Email: CIDIntakeLine@york.ca

Telephone: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73588 (M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

On-call Response Telephone: 905-953-6478 (after hours, weekends)

Fax number: 905-898-5213

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