

Updated COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance

INFORMATION FOR YORK REGION HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

July 11, 2023

On July 7, 2023, the Ministry of Health updated its COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance; highlights of the changes are provided below. For more details on the update, please visit [COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance 2023-07-07](#).

Booster Dose Recommendations

- The Ministry of Health has advised that individuals aged five years and older should consider delaying receipt of a COVID-19 booster dose until Fall 2023.
- Receiving a booster dose in the fall as the respiratory season begins will maximize protection against COVID-19 when peak circulation of the virus is expected.
- The decision to receive a booster dose prior to Fall 2023 may be appropriate for certain individuals based on their unique health status and personal situation.
- The **Moderna BA4/5 vaccine** can now also be provided as a booster vaccine for people aged 6 to 17 (page 26).

Primary Series Recommendations

- NACI recommends bivalent Omicron-containing mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (i.e., **Bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech** or **Bivalent Moderna**) can be used to initiate or complete the primary series for all people 6 months and older. In the coming months, most original monovalent (non-Omicron containing) vaccines will no longer be available in Canada.
- Please refer to pages 3,4 and 26 of the [COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance](#) for more information on product recommendations by age, dosage and schedules (recommended and minimum intervals).
- Currently, there is a Canada-wide supply gap for non-mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. **Novavax** vaccine is not currently available to order in Canada but is expected to be available again soon. YRPH's non-mRNA COVID-19 vaccine clinics will be on hold until further Novavax supply is available.
- **Janssen** COVID-19 vaccine is no longer available as a vaccine product in Canada. Janssen Inc. has submitted a voluntary recall to Health Canada and states that the decision to withdraw this product from use in Canada is not the result of any health and safety concern.

[More information on COVID-19 in York Region](#)

York Region Public Health, Infectious Diseases Control Division

1-877-464-9675 ext. 73588

Monday to Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

905-953-6478

After hours, including weekends and holidays

Primary Series for Individuals Aged 6 Months–4 Years

SPIKEVAX/MODERNA



Bivalent BA.4/5
Age: 6 months–4 years
Dilute: NO
Dose: 25 mcg/0.25 mL



2 doses

or



3 doses

Immunocompromised

Booster Doses



Booster doses have not been approved for children aged 6 months–4 years.

Primary Series for Children Aged 5-11 Years²

COMIRNATY/PFIZER



Bivalent BA.4/5
Age: 5-11 years
Dilute: With 1.3 mL
Dose: 10 mcg/0.2 mL



2 doses

or



3 doses

Immunocompromised

Mixing Doses



Individuals aged 5-11 years may be administered vaccine products interchangeably, using the correct dose for their age.

SPIKEVAX/MODERNA



Bivalent BA.4/5
Age: 5-11 years
Dilute: NO
Dose: 25 mcg/0.25 mL



2 doses

or



3 doses

Immunocompromised

Booster Doses



Primary Series for Individuals Aged 12 Years and Older^{2,3}

COMIRNATY/PFIZER



Bivalent BA.4/5
Age: 12+ years
Dilute: NO
Dose: 30 mcg/0.3 mL



2 doses

or



3 doses

Immunocompromised

Mixing Doses



Individuals aged 12 years and older may be administered vaccine products interchangeably, using the correct dose for their age.⁵

SPIKEVAX/MODERNA



Bivalent BA.4/5
Age: 12+ years
Dilute: NO
Dose: 50 mcg/0.5 mL



2 doses

or



3 doses

Immunocompromised

Booster Doses



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