



ALERT

Provincial Recommendations on Second Dose Interval Exceptions

March 30, 2021

On March 26, new recommendations have been released on second dose intervals for Ontario special populations by the Vaccine Clinical Advisory Group. Currently, with the exception of residents of long-term care, retirement homes and elder care homes, the dose interval for COVID-19 vaccines has been extended to up to 16 weeks. (This does not apply to residents of First Nation communities, who will proceed with second doses.)

The following special populations have been considered. **The decision was made to keep recommendations for second dose interval as 16 weeks:**

- Pregnant patients
- Patients 80 years of age and older living in the community.

The following special populations are now recommended to have the dosing interval that is recommended in the product monograph (for Pfizer-BioNTech, this is 21 days and for Moderna, 28 days):

- **Transplant** recipients (including solid organ transplants and hematopoietic stem cell transplants)
- Individuals with **malignant hematologic disorders** and **non-hematologic malignant solid tumors** receiving **active** treatment (chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy), excluding individuals receiving solely hormonal therapy or radiation therapy.

To view the full guidance document, visit peterboroughpublichealth.ca | **Health Professional** select from Quick Click **Novel Coronavirus** under **Find Information About** click on **COVID-19 Vaccine Information** select 'COVID-19 recommendations for exceptions to extended second dose interval' under Healthcare Provider Education Documents.