

IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19

To: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Midwives
Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Timiskaming Health Unit:

Monday to Friday

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

New Liskeard

Tel: (705) 647-4305

Toll Free: (866) 747-4305

Fax: (705) 647-5779

Kirkland Lake

Tel: (705) 567-9355

Toll Free: (866) 967-9355

Fax: (705) 567-5476

After-Hours or Weekend On-Call Number

(705) 647-3033

www.timiskaminghu.com

Janssen

A small supply of Janssen is available for ON residents 18+ who are mRNA hesitant or prefer a viral vector vaccine. Sign up link is [here](#). Janssen Info sheets: [EN](#) [FR](#). No guarantees on supply availability or timelines.

5-11

There is a strong recommendation for the dose interval for individuals 5-11 to be 56 days. This is indicated to reduce the risk of myocarditis and to increase vaccine efficacy. However, in instances such as risk of infection, travel, compassionate reasons, or at the discretion of the health care provider, a dose interval of minimum 21 days can be observed with informed consent. More information can be found here [EN](#) [FR](#).

Reminder that those 5-11 seeking a COVID-19 vaccination should wait 14 days following any other immunization before receiving their COVID-19 vaccine. Additionally, they should also wait 14 days after receiving COVID-19 vaccine before receiving any other vaccine. This is to allow for accurate AEFI surveillance. Please ensure you are [reporting AEFIs](#) to Timiskaming Health Unit.

Dose Interval for Adults

The recommended dose interval for adults is now 56 days but with informed consent, the minimum product monograph intervals can be observed.

Expanding Booster Eligibility – Age-Based

Individuals 50-69 years old (>168 days since their second dose) will be eligible to book through the provincial online booking system beginning December 13th at 8AM. Mass clinic availability commences in January but pharmacies may have some vaccine available for this group through December.

Expanding Booster Eligibility – Immune Compromised

In addition, due to a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, effective immediately individuals receiving dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis) are eligible to receive a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine if it has been 56 days since their second dose. More information can be found here. [EN](#) [FR](#)

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT

December 7, 2021



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Also effective immediately, the province is recommending re-vaccination with a new COVID-19 vaccine primary series post-transplantation for individuals who receive hematopoietic stem cell transplants (HSCT), hematopoietic cell transplants (HCT) (autologous or allogeneic), and recipients of CAR-T-cell therapy, due to the loss of immunity following therapy or transplant. [More information can be found here.](#)

Blastomycosis

Porcupine Health Unit is actively monitoring a cluster of suspect blastomycosis cases in the Constance Lake First Nation community as well as one confirmed case and one suspected case of blastomycosis under investigation in dogs in Hornepayne. Blastomycosis is a disease of public health significance that is reportable to public health.

- [Information about Blastomycosis / FR](#)
- For persons who meet the case definition, complete a [communicable diseases notification form](#) and consider respiratory and serology testing as below:
 - Respiratory testing:
 - Multiplex PCR for respiratory panel, fungal culture, TB & AFB cultures, COVID-19 PCR, routine bacterial culture & sensitivity.
 - Mycoplasma PCR and Legionella PCR (or Legionella urine antigen).
 - Serology testing:
 - Blastomycosis (not STAT)
 - **Chest X-ray** if clinically indicated