

### IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19

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

**Updated guidance documents for CCM, critical staffing shortages, fourth doses are included in this alert.**

1. COVID-19 Integrated Testing & Case, Contact and Outbreak Management Interim Guidance: Omicron Surge (**v.2.0, January 13, 2022**) **EN only (attached)**
2. COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Omicron Surge Management of Critical Staffing Shortages in Highest Risk Settings (**v.2.0, January 13, 2022**) [EN/FR](#)

This tool can be used when considering extreme surges of COVID-19 cases and contacts, highest risk settings may need to implement strategies during critical staffing shortages to meet critical workforce needs.

#### Fourth doses

Updated guidance document can be found here ([EN/FR](#)). Generic booster form is attached to this alert and has been updated to include dialysis patients. Either the updated form or the third dose referral form used previously will be accepted at all THU clinics. Additionally, if patients have a qualifying prescription as listed in the linked document, proof of prescription will be accepted at all THU clinics in lieu of a referral form.

#### Note:

- Moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals who are eligible for a three-dose primary series are recommended to receive a booster dose (i.e. 4th dose)  $\geq 3$  months (84 days) after completion of the extended primary series.
- A fourth dose of an mRNA vaccine is recommended for residents of long-term care homes (LTCH), retirement homes (RH), Elder Care Lodges and older adults living in other congregate settings providing assisted-living and health services who received their third dose at least three months (84 days) prior.

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](http://www.timiskaminghu.com)