

**Media Release**

**May 13, 2021**

**New Groups permitted to book second dose COVID-19 vaccination appointments ahead of the 16 week schedule**

CK Public Health invites all high-risk health care workers, dialysis patients, and all First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals to book their second COVID-19 vaccination appointment at a shortened interval. Beginning May 14, 2021 at 8:00 a.m., high-risk health care workers may book second dose appointments online at [GetYourShotCK.ca](http://GetYourShotCK.ca) or by calling 519.351.1010 and leaving a message. Dialysis patients and all First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals may begin booking immediately.

The direction to administer second doses to these groups earlier than the 16-week timeframe comes because of an increased vaccine supply across Ontario in the coming weeks. Being included in the shortened interval means these individuals may book appointments 21 days after receiving their first dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and 28 days after receiving their first dose of Moderna.

High-risk health care workers eligible for the shortened second-dose include:

- All hospital and acute care staff in frontline roles with COVID-19 patients and/or with a high-risk of exposure to COVID-19, including nurses and personal support workers and those performing aerosol-generating procedures;
- All patient-facing health care workers involved in the COVID-19 response;
- Medical First Responders;
- Community health care workers serving specialized populations;
- Long-term care home and retirement-home health care workers, including nurses and personal support workers and Essential Caregivers;
- Individuals working in Community Health Centers serving disproportionately affected communities and/or communities experiencing highest burden of health, social and economic impacts from COVID-19;
- Critical health care workers in remote and hard to access communities, e.g., sole practitioner; and
- Home and community care health care workers, including nurses and personal support workers caring for recipients of chronic homecare and seniors in congregate living facilities or providing hands-on care to COVID-19 patients in the community.

When booking a second dose, CK Public Health reminds residents to book an appointment at a clinic offering the same vaccine as their first dose. The type of vaccine offered is listed in the clinic details in the online booking system.



**Municipality of Chatham-Kent**

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CK Public Health staff are working very hard to rollout the vaccine efficiently and in line with the Ministry of Health's vaccination rollout plan. Appointments are currently being booked a few weeks out; as vaccine supplies increase, additional clinic dates will be announced.

For the latest COVID-19 vaccination updates, please visit: [ckphu.com/covid-19-vaccines](http://ckphu.com/covid-19-vaccines).

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