



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccines Available Now for High-Risk Groups

COVID-19 continues to account for a large burden of disease during the respiratory illness season and Health Care Providers (HCP) are asked to recommend COVID-19 vaccines for those who are eligible. For 2026-2027, Ontario will have two mRNA vaccines (Spikevax and Comirnaty) and a protein subunit vaccine (Nuvaxovid) available, all targeting the XFG variant. Please see the provincial [Health Care Provider Fact Sheet](#) for more information.

Eligibility

The following individuals (**High-Risk Group 1**) **should** receive a vaccine in the **fall AND spring**:

- Adults 80 years and older
- 65 to 79 years of age **should** receive a dose now and **may** receive a dose in the spring
- Residents of long-term care homes aged 18 years and older
- Residents in congregate living settings aged 65 years and older
- Adults aged 65-79 years with underlying medical conditions (see HCP Fact Sheet)
- Individuals aged 6 months of age and older who are immunocompromised (see HCP Fact Sheet)
- Individuals 55 years and older who identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Metis and their non-Indigenous household members who are 55 years and older

The following individuals (**High-Risk Group 2**) **should** receive a vaccine in the **fall only**:

- Residents in long-term care homes aged 17 years and under
- Residents in congregate living settings aged 64 years and under
- Individuals aged 64 years and under with underlying medical conditions, including children aged 17 and under with complex health needs (see HCP Fact Sheet)
- Pregnant individuals and members of underserved communities
- Individuals from First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities who are aged 54 years and under and their non-Indigenous household members aged 6 months and older
- Health care workers and other care providers in facilities (see HCP Fact Sheet)

The following individuals from **priority populations** **may** receive a vaccine in the **fall**:

- Children 6 months to 4 years of age
- Individuals at increased risk of exposure to avian influenza A (H5N1) viruses

General Population: All individuals aged 6 months of age and older who do not belong to the above populations **may** receive a vaccine **starting on October 26, 2026.** over...

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



Publicly Funded COVID-19 Vaccines for 2026/2027

Age Groups	Spikevax XFG (mRNA)	Comirnaty XFG (mRNA)	Nuvaxovid XFG (protein subunit)
6 months to 11 years	Multidose vial (MDV)	None	None
12 years and older	MDV and Prefilled syringe (PFS)	MDV and PFS	PFS

Products may be substituted based on supply. HCPs should use the appropriate vaccine that is available unless the patient has a medical contraindication toward a specific vaccine.

The COVID-19 vaccines may be given at the same time with other vaccines, or at any time before or after other non-COVID-19 vaccines (live or non-live vaccines).

COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering Availability and Order

Effective immediately, all Spikevax and Comirnaty COVID-19 LP 8.1. vaccine is discontinued. All remaining doses should be disposed of as per your organization's established processes.

Sites onboarded to the Panorama Guided Workflow can order vaccine using the [Online Seasonal Vaccine Order Form](#) ([durham.ca/hcp](#) > Forms > Order). If your organization would like to start offering COVID-19 vaccine, please visit [durham.ca/hcp](#) (Respiratory Illnesses>COVID-19).

Individuals six months and older can receive the COVID-19 vaccine through participating health care providers and pharmacies ([ontario.ca/vaccine-locations/](#)). Limited Health Department COVID-19 vaccine clinic appointments are available for eligible individuals 6 months of age and older who cannot be vaccinated at local pharmacies or through a HCP. Appointments will be available soon and can be booked online. Visit [www.durham.ca/COVIDvaccines](#) for more information.

For further information, visit [durham.ca/hcp](#) (Respiratory illnesses > COVID-19 > Vaccine Information & Additional Resources).

Additional Information

Please find attached a notice which is required to be displayed in your clinic. The notice should be displayed so patients are aware of the changes and understand their option to withdraw consent for HCPs to access their immunization history through the Panorama Guided Workflow.

The Ministry of Health is now an additional health information custodian for immunization records in Panorama, Ontario's secure electronic provincial immunization system used by public health units. COVID-19 vaccination records have been migrated to Panorama, and a new web tool, Panorama Guided Workflow, allows HCPs to view a patient's immunization history when providing care.

October 2, 2026

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | [durham.ca/health](#)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



NOTICE ABOUT YOUR IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION IN PANORAMA

Changes are being made to how immunization records in Panorama are managed in Ontario. This notice explains what is changing, how it may benefit you, and the choices you have regarding your personal health information. Your personal health information continues to be protected under Ontario's privacy laws.

What is changing?

The Ministry of Health is now an additional health information custodian for immunization records in Panorama, Ontario's secure electronic provincial immunization system used by public health units. COVID-19 vaccination records have also been migrated to Panorama. A new web tool has been developed, called Panorama Guided Workflow, to allow health care providers to view your immunization history in one place when providing care to you.

How does this benefit you?

Having immunization records in one place helps health care providers access a more complete immunization history when providing care to you. This can support informed immunization decisions and help avoid missing or duplicate immunizations.

Your choice

You can choose not to allow any health care provider to access your immunization history through Panorama Guided Workflow when they are providing care to you. To do so, contact your local public health unit to withdraw your consent. Once your consent is withdrawn, all health care providers will no longer be able to view your immunization history through Panorama Guided Workflow.

Choosing to withdraw your consent will not affect your ability to receive care or immunization services and it will not affect immunization requirements for school attendance under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act*.

AVIS AU SUJET DES RENSEIGNEMENTS SUR VOTRE IMMUNISATION DANS PANORAMA

Des changements sont apportés à la méthode de gestion des dossiers d'immunisation dans Panorama en Ontario. Cet avis explique ces changements, leurs avantages pour vous et les options à votre disposition pour vos renseignements personnels sur la santé. Vos renseignements personnels sur la santé continuent d'être protégés en vertu des lois ontariennes sur la protection de la vie privée.

Qu'est-ce qui change?

Le ministère de la Santé est maintenant un dépositaire supplémentaire des renseignements sur la santé pour les dossiers d'immunisation dans Panorama, le système électronique et sécurisé d'immunisation de la province de l'Ontario utilisé par les bureaux de santé publique. Les dossiers d'immunisation contre la COVID-19 ont également été migrés vers Panorama. Un nouvel outil en ligne, appelé le flux de travail guidé Panorama, a été élaboré afin de permettre aux fournisseurs de soins de santé de consulter vos antécédents de vaccination à un seul endroit quand ils vous prodiguent des soins.

Quels en sont les avantages pour vous?

Conserver les dossiers d'immunisation à un seul endroit permet aux fournisseurs de soins de santé d'accéder à des antécédents de vaccination plus complets quand ils vous prodiguent des soins. Cela peut éclairer les décisions concernant l'immunisation et éviter les vaccinations manquantes ou en double.

Votre choix

Vous pouvez choisir de ne pas autoriser un fournisseur de soins de santé à accéder à vos antécédents de vaccination par le biais du flux de travail guidé Panorama quand il vous prodigue des soins. À cette fin, communiquez avec votre bureau de santé publique local pour retirer votre consentement. Une fois votre consentement retiré, aucun fournisseur de soins de santé ne pourra plus consulter vos antécédents de vaccination par le biais du flux de travail guidé Panorama.

Choisir de retirer votre consentement n'aura aucune incidence sur votre capacité de recevoir des soins ou des services de vaccination ni sur les exigences scolaires en matière de vaccination en vertu de la *Loi sur l'immunisation des élèves*.