

## MEMO

**TO:** Pharmacists and Community Physicians  
**FROM:** Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer of Health  
**DATE:** July 14, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Vaccine Update

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Public health is advising that the minimum interval between doses of COVID-19 vaccine has been reduced to 28 days. While emerging evidence suggests that a longer dosing interval may increase and prolong the immune response to the vaccine, public health recognizes that there may be specific situations that require an individual to receive the vaccine before the recommended eight week interval. This is still in keeping with guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI).

When making this decision, public health considered emerging evidence regarding the intervals between doses, the potential for another wave of COVID-19 in the fall, vaccine supply in the province, the circulation of new variants, particularly the delta variant, and the importance of ensuring those 12 and over who attend or work in schools and post-secondary institutions, will be fully vaccinated sooner and prior to the start of the school year.

It continues to be common practice in vaccination programs to interchange vaccine brands. Both Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines are safe, effective, and can be interchanged. COVID-19 vaccine can be ordered through the vaccine depot within your region, using the vaccine order form attached.

Public health is recommending that COVID-19 vaccine should not be distributed between pharmacies and physician offices. If a pharmacy or physician office has concerns with utilizing their supply before it expires, please connect with the vaccine depot within your region.

For the most up to date information, including storage and handling guidelines, please continue to visit the COVID-19 vaccine Health Professionals page of our website at [Resources for Health Care Professionals - COVID-19 Vaccine \(gov.nl.ca\)](https://www.gov.nl.ca/health/covid-19/vaccine/)

## COVID-19 VACCINE ORDER FORM

Pharmacy or Physician ordering COVID-19 vaccine: \_\_\_\_\_

Pharmacy or Physician address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pharmacy or Physician telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Product	Administration	# of Doses required	Products provided by RHA	# of Doses sent from RHA
COVID-19 Vaccine	Injection			

EASTERN HEALTH	
Mount Pearl Square Vaccine Depot Telephone: 752-4886 Fax: 752-4873	Holyrood Vaccine Depot Telephone: 229-1572 Fax: 229-1589
CENTRAL HEALTH	
Telephone: 292-8881 Fax: 651-6483	
WESTERN HEALTH	
Telephone: 784-5417 Fax: 637-5160	
LABRADOR- GRENFELL HEALTH	
Telephone: 454-0375 Fax: 454-4978	

**For RHA Vaccine Depot Completion:**

Date Order Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Order Sent from RHA: \_\_\_\_\_