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Key Messages:

- COVID-19 Spring 2023 Campaign has commenced in Ontario to encourage high-risk groups to receive a bivalent booster dose this spring.
- The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommends an additional booster dose for patients with a minimum interval of six months since last COVID-19 vaccine dose or infection.
- Physicians can assist patients to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccination. Onboarding and vaccine ordering information can be found below.

NEW: COVID-19 Spring 2023 Campaign in Ontario

The Ontario Spring 2023 Campaign for COVID-19 vaccination has commenced. The recommendation this spring is for high-risk groups to be offered a bivalent booster at a minimum interval of six months from last COVID-19 dose or infection.

These groups include:

- Individuals 65 years and older
- Residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, and residents living in other congregate settings or those with complex medical needs
- Individuals 18 years and older with moderate to severe immunocompromising conditions
- Pregnant individuals
- Individuals 55 years and older who identify as First Nations, Inuit or Métis and their non-Indigenous household members 55 years and older

In Ontario, individuals outside of the above groups may opt to receive another booster dose during the Spring of 2023, if at least six months have passed since

their previous dose or confirmed COVID-19 infection. However, it should be communicated that there is no current evidence that substantiates the need for an additional dose if a booster was already received on or after September 1, 2022.

Individuals five years and older who have not yet received a booster dose since September 1, 2022, remain recommended to receive a booster dose if it has been at least six months since their last dose or confirmed COVID-19 infection.

These recommendations are in alignment with the March 2023 NACI Guidance on Spring COVID-19 Booster: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/vaccines-immunization/national-advisory-committee-immunization-guidance-additional-covid-19-booster-dose-spring-2023-individuals-high-risk-severe-illness-due-covid-19.html>.

The continued and preferred booster products continue to be the Bivalent Omicron-targeting mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.

Further details and administration guidance can be found in the updated Ministry of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Guidance document here: https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/vaccine/COVID-19_vaccine_administration.pdf

REMINDER: Keep patients up to date with COVID-19 vaccination

Encourage high-risk groups in your practice to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations. Vaccination remains the best way to protect against severe illness and hospitalization.

Physicians are encouraged to:

- Onboard to receive COVID-19 vaccines at your site:
<https://www.peelregion.ca/health/professionals/tools/vaccinations-at-care-site.htm>
- To order COVID-19 vaccine, if already onboarded
 - click “[Submit your COVID-19 vaccine order](#)” link on the onboarding page:
<https://www.peelregion.ca/health/professionals/tools/vaccinations-at-care-site.htm>
- Refer patients to:
<https://peelregion.ca/coronavirus/vaccine/book-appointment/> for more information on booking a COVID-19 vaccine appointment