

COVID-19 Update

Vaccination Sign Up and Sequencing Process (updated January 6, 2021)

What's new

Everyone who wishes to get the vaccine will get it.

HHS and SJHH are working to schedule staff, physicians, residents and learners for vaccinations beginning January 7, 2021.

Following provincial government direction, local efforts are underway to further accelerate the vaccination of hospital healthcare workers using all available stock of the Pfizer vaccine in our possession immediately, without reservation of second doses. This strategy could lead to delays in the administration of second doses, by a few days, or possibly longer.

Second doses are dependent on vaccine supply. Our goal remains to vaccinate everyone within the required 21 day timeframe, and we are working directly with the province to minimize this from happening.

The provincial government's ethical and <u>implementation frameworks</u> identify groups of healthcare workers for sequencing purposes:

- Group 1: those at highest risk of COVID exposure at work
- Group 2: those working with vulnerable patients at high risk
- Group 3: those working in all other clinical areas (patient facing)
- Group 4: all other hospital workers.

What you need to do

- We are asking hospital healthcare worker to <u>sign up online now</u> to get the vaccine.
- You will be asked about which of the four groups you fit into. Here are the groups for vaccination sequencing at HHS and SJHH.
- The four groups will be done in order. As more vaccines are made available, more people will be vaccinated.
- Healthcare workers from each group will be placed into a randomized selection process (lottery) to determine who will get the vaccine each day.

You will be contacted for scheduling when your name is selected.

What you need to know

- If you are selected and do not accept the appointment, or miss the appointment, you will be put back into the randomized process.
- Some people will get appointments during their shifts, others on their days off.
- We encourage everyone to take the appointment you are given to get the vaccine as quickly as possible.
- Units will support the timing of these appointments as much as possible.

Vaccination timelines

- Beginning January 7, all individuals who have signed up, will be put through a randomized selection process.
- When the clinic is running at full capacity, we expect that several hundred staff, physicians and residents from SJHH and HHS will be vaccinated daily.
- That process will be repeated each day until every person who has signed up receives the vaccine based on the priority order.
- Timelines are based on vaccine supply and may be subject to changes based on changes in provincial guidelines.
- Based on the clinic's capacity and individuals' ability to attend their appointment, there
 may be days where the system will pull names of staff/physicians from another group.
 This is to ensure we use all the clinic bookings.

Regardless of where you are in the sequencing groups, we ask that you <u>sign up now</u>, since we may be adding those from other phases at any point.

Residual doses and standby list

Additionally, residual doses of the vaccine may be available at the end of each day, and we will be calling some people on the standby list at the last minute to ensure there is no waste of the vaccine, so that we can vaccinate our hospital workers as quickly as possible.

Based on current information, we anticipate that all hospital staff, physicians and learners who wish to receive the vaccine, will get an appointment by the end of March.

Additional information

Vaccination is highly recommended for anyone for whom the vaccine is deemed safe. However, receiving the vaccine is voluntary. <u>Click here to download</u>, print and read the consent form. You will be asked to sign the consent form on site.

Please connect with your healthcare provider in advance if you have questions whether the vaccine is right for you. If you have additional questions, the clinicians at the vaccination clinic will be available.

Please remember to bring your health card to your vaccination appointment.

More information for staff and physicians is available in a FAQ document.