

September 23, 2021

## **COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance for Personal Care Homes: Recommended Interval between Second and Third Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine & Update on COVID-19/Flu Vaccine Sequence of Administration**

Due to the possibility of decreased protection over time from a complete COVID19 series in residents of personal care homes, Manitoba is recommending that all personal care home residents be offered a booster dose of a COVID19 vaccine.

The recommended minimum interval between second and third doses of COVID-19 vaccine is six months for the general population of residents in personal care homes. However, please note that residents who are moderately to severely immunocompromised may not have had a sufficient immune response to the initial 2 dose series and therefore are not required to wait six months to receive a 3<sup>rd</sup> dose. Individuals with moderate to severe immunocompromise should receive a third dose no sooner than 28 days after the second dose. (ie. 28 day minimum interval)

The seasonal influenza (flu) vaccine including the high-dose flu vaccine, has started to arrive in Manitoba, and is being shipped to priority locations (e.g., personal care homes). All personal care homes across the province can expect to have their high-dose flu vaccine shipment within the next two weeks, barring any unforeseen supply disruptions.

It is recommended that personal care homes administer the flu vaccine to residents when the shipment arrives to the facility. Third doses of COVID-19 vaccine should be offered no sooner than 14 days following the administration of the flu vaccine to residents.

In situations where providing the COVID-19 vaccine before influenza vaccine aligns better with the facility's unique circumstances, this is considered acceptable. Where the COVID-19 vaccine is administered first, administration of the flu vaccine can commence 28 days later.

NACI is currently preparing guidance on coadministration and Manitoba public health officials continue to review the evidence and epidemiology, and will update guidance accordingly.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines will be updated to reflect these changes and posted at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/healthcare-professionals.html>.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility/clinic.

Sincerely,

*“Original Signed by”*

Joss Reimer, MD FRCPC MPH  
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