
SUBJECT: Eligibility for Novavax Nuvaxovid Vaccine
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To: Health Care Providers, Pharmacies, Hospitals, Assessment Centres
From: Dr. Matthew Tenenbaum, Associate Medical Officer of Health

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) is expecting to receive its first supplies of the Novavax Nuvaxovid COVID-19 vaccine this week and will be booking appointments for eligible individuals.

In Ontario, adults 18 years of age or older are eligible to receive Nuvaxovid for any primary series or booster dose, if they are:

- Not able to receive an mRNA vaccine (i.e. they have a medical contraindication) or
- Not willing to receive an mRNA vaccine.¹

Individuals who are interested in receiving Nuvaxovid can contact WDGPH's Client & Community Support Call Centre at **1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006** Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to book an appointment. A physician referral is not required. Please be aware that Nuvaxovid will only be offered at special clinics and will not be available at all WDG Public Health immunization sites.

Nuvaxovid is a recombinant protein subunit vaccine authorized for adults 18 years of age and older. For a primary immunization series, it is administered as two doses at least 21 days apart; however, 8 weeks is considered the optimal interval. Nuvaxovid may also be administered off-label as a booster dose, at least three months following the primary series.^{1,2}

Please be aware that the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) still preferentially recommends mRNA vaccines due to the excellent protection they provide against severe illness and hospitalization, and their well-known safety profiles. Additional information can be found in [NACI's statement](#).²

References:

1. Ministry of Health. COVID-19 vaccine administration. March 24, 2022. Accessed: April 4, 2022. Available from: https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/vaccine/COVID-19_vaccine_administration.pdf
2. Public Health Agency of Canada. An Advisory Committee Statement (ACS) National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) - Recommendations on the use of Novavax Nuvaxovid COVID-19 vaccine. February 17, 2022. Accessed: April 4, 2022. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-use-novavax-nuvaxovid-covid-19-vaccine.pdf>

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