

SUBJECT: Vaccinating Children Under Five
Date: July 28, 2022
Pages: 2
To: Physicians, Primary Care Providers
From: Dr. Matthew Tenenbaum, Associate Medical Officer of Health

On behalf of our team at WDG Public Health, I'd like to thank primary care providers for their support with offering the Moderna Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine to children under five years of age. Given your existing relationships with patients and families, we strongly believe that primary care offices are best equipped to deliver this vaccine. Our community has benefitted from a strong primary care role in vaccinations over the course of the pandemic.

This advisory serves to summarize information about a few key topics related to vaccination of children under five.

Ensuring your Youngest Patients can Access Vaccine

We expect that, for most children under five, parents will want to be immunized in your primary care office. We know that arrangements for vaccine delivery will differ across offices. If you are still finalizing your arrangements, we would recommend that you maintain a list of children/families interested in receiving the vaccine so that you can reach out to them at the appropriate time.

If you are concerned that you do not have enough interested children to warrant opening a 10-dose vaccine vial, you can order prefilled single-dose syringes from WDGPH. Please refer to the information below. Multidose vials may be used for up to 24 hours after they are opened, and it may make sense to have multiple providers in your office split a vial.

If you are not able to offer vaccine in your office, please consider where you will direct patients/families who are interested in receiving this vaccine. Some pharmacies across WDGPH are immunizing this age group, and additional information can be found [on our website](#). Please ensure that your patients have clear information about where to go if your office is not able to administer the vaccine – for example, by including it in your reception script. WDGPH has limited capacity to immunize and is focusing on unattached children and those requiring special accommodations.

Ordering Vaccine

To order multidose vials - To order vaccine fax a completed [order form](#) and [temperature logs](#) to 519-823-4903. Orders will be filled up to Thursday at noon for delivery the following week. Pick-up through the week at a public health office can also be arranged.

To order single-dose syringes - Use [this link](#) for pick up at select clinic locations. An administrative assistant from WDGPH will call the office contact to discuss the request and complete any necessary requirements before proceeding with the request. This discussion will include identifying an appropriate clinic location and pick-up time based on the current clinic schedule.

COVax Support

In preparation to administer this vaccine, please log into COVax and ensure that you have access. If access is denied, please email the COVax Data Team at covaxdatateam@wdgpublichealth.ca to recover access.

Providers who would like a refresher in logging into COVax and entering immunizations can attend a COVAX [Lunch and Learn on Tuesday, August 2 at 12:30pm](#).

If your office is planning a larger immunization event for children under five, and you will require dedicated admin support for COVax data entry, please contact us at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006.

Resources to Support Vaccine Administration

WDGPH will be collating helpful resources for primary care providers regarding this vaccine and posting them [on our website](#).

Please also refer to resources from:

- Ontario College of Family Physicians - <https://www.ontariofamilyphysicians.ca/tools-resources/covid-19-resources/covid-19-vaccines>
- Ontario Ministry of Health - https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/covid19_vaccine.aspx
- National Advisory Committee on Immunization - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-use-moderna-spikevax-covid-19-vaccine-children-6-months-5-years.html>
- University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy - <https://uwaterloo.ca/pharmacy/resources-services-and-initiatives/health-resources/covid-19-health-resources>

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