

Long-term care residents and assisted living tenants will be offered a third dose of COVID-19 vaccine by mid-December

What's happening?

- Fraser Health is working with long-term care and pharmacy partners to offer a third dose of COVID-19 vaccine to all eligible long-term care residents and assisted living tenants.
- A third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine is aimed at enhancing protection of and preventing outbreaks among these vulnerable populations.

When are residents/tenants eligible?

- For those immunized with two doses, it is recommended that the third dose be administered six months following initial series of COVID-19 vaccine.
- **The third dose can be safely administered as early as twenty-eight days after the second dose, and may be offered to all residents/tenants.** The National Advisory Committee on Immunization warns that delaying the third dose will increase the period during which individuals may have [reduced protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection](#).
- **Residents/tenants may be offered the seasonal flu vaccine at the same time as their third COVID-19 vaccine dose.** Third doses of COVID-19 vaccine and seasonal flu vaccine can be given at the same time with no ill effects.
- **Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated residents who have reconsidered vaccination** may also request to be vaccinated at this time.

Which vaccine will residents/tenants receive?

- **Fraser Health is offering Moderna vaccine for the third dose.** We will make Pfizer available by exception for those who received Pfizer vaccine for their first and second doses, and are not consenting to a third dose with Moderna. This should be noted on the consent form and the coordinator made aware that Pfizer is requested. To avoid wasting vaccine, those requesting Pfizer may or may not be vaccinated during the same visit.
- **Vaccine effectiveness against preventing severe outcomes, such as hospitalizations and deaths** is comparable between both mRNA vaccines.

What's the plan?

- **Sites are being sequenced**, and we expect that all eligible residents/tenants will be offered a third dose by mid-December 2021. Outbreak sites may be prioritized.
- **COVID-19 outreach coordinators will be reaching out** to confirm the number of residents/tenants to be immunized and the vaccine clinic timing for your facility.
- **Consent process is required for third dose.** The same consent process is being used for third dose as was used previously. The coordinators will provide all the consent documentation to the Directors of Care during the planning process.

- **For sites where pharmacies regularly deliver vaccine to residents/tenants (i.e. influenza), coordination with pharmacy providers is recommended.** Fraser Health is working with some pharmacies to be able to provide both COVID-19 and Influenza vaccinations during the same visit. The COVID-19 outreach coordinator will review this with you during the planning phase.
- **Fraser Health will arrange for the delivery of the vaccine and necessary supplies, such as needles, to your site.**

Questions?

Please contact our COVID-19 outreach coordinators at COVIDOutreachCoordinators1@fraserhealth.ca.