

Public Service Announcement

Third COVID-19 vaccine dose recommended for immunocompromised individuals

Start Date: October 5, 2021

End Date: October 18, 2021

Nunavut-wide

The Government of Nunavut's Department of Health in response to recent guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations, is recommending that moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals receive a third dose of an authorized mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer).

Third doses of the vaccine will be authorized by referral from a physician or nurse practitioner and will be given at least 28 days after receiving the second dose of an mRNA vaccine.

This recommendation applies to individuals who are 12 years of age and over who have one of the following conditions:

- Active treatment for solid tumour or hematologic malignancies.
- Receipt of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy.
- Receipt of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T-cell therapy or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy).
- Moderate to severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Stage 3 or advanced untreated HIV infection and those with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.
- Active treatment with the following categories of immunosuppressive therapies: anti-B cell therapies (monoclonal antibodies targeting CD19, CD20 and CD22), high-dose systemic corticosteroids (refer to the CIG for suggested definition of high dose steroids), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, or tumor-necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors and other biologic agents that are significantly immunosuppressive.

