



MEMO: Update on Regional Prioritization of COVID-19 Vaccine

January 13, 2020

Background

At this time, all COVID-19 vaccines doses for Huron Perth Public Health, Middlesex-London Health Unit, and Southwestern Public Health are delivered to the London Health Sciences Centre at the Western Fair Agriplex. These doses will be administered at the mass immunization clinic at the Western Fair Agriplex or through mobile clinics run by health unit staff.

Prioritization of Vaccine

The Ministry of Health, through the guidance of the provincial COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force led by General Rick Hillier, directs the allocation of the vaccine. Given scarce vaccine supply, a regional COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization Advisory Committee has been struck to help inform the public health units decisions regarding further prioritization when necessary.

At this time, the General has indicated that all first doses must be prioritized for long-term care and high-risk retirement home residents, staff, and essential caregivers. The goal is to vaccinate all long-term care and high-risk retirement home residents by February 15, 2020.

Given this direction and the limited number of doses that are available regionally, only the following people are eligible to receive the vaccine, effective immediately:

At the Western Fair Agriplex Clinic:

- Long-term care home staff
- LHIN, Hospital, Primary Care and Paramedic Services staff who are directly providing on-site support to long-term care and retirement homes in outbreak, and have committed to a week or more of attending the facility
- Retirement home staff
- Immunizers of the COVID-19 vaccine
 - Immunizers are vaccinated to limit the potential for transmission between facilities when the mobile clinics are deployed
- Individuals who have previously booked appointments

Through mobile clinics:

- Long-term care home residents
- High-risk retirement homes
 - Co-located with long-term care homes and those with a memory unit

No other groups are currently eligible for the vaccine in this region.

For clarity, given the supply, essential caregivers in long-term care homes and retirement homes are not currently able to book appointments at the Western Fair Agriplex Clinic. Additionally, independent living facilities, seniors apartments, hospice sites, although congregate settings that include seniors, are not on the current list but will be considered as soon as supplies permit.

Previous COVID-19 cases are not eligible to receive the vaccine at this time given the scarce supply

Eligibility will be reviewed weekly and will be dependent on vaccine supply and Provincial direction.