

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



To: All Staff, Professional Staff, Learners and Volunteers

From: Jennifer Wintermans, EVP, Communications & Corporate Relations, COVID-19 Lead

Date: December 30, 2021

RE: **Vaccine Supply – Onsite Vaccine Clinic Administering Moderna Spikevax**

Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre's onsite COVID-19 vaccination clinic continues to support staff receiving first, second and third doses of COVID-19 vaccine. With the current influx of COVID-19 positive cases in our province, and rapid spread of the Omicron variant, Ontario has ramped up the third dose "booster" shot campaign to include all people 18+ as eligible to receive their third dose.

Due to the supply shortage of COVID-19 Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, as reported by the Ministry of Health, **starting January 4th our onsite vaccination clinic will only offer the Pfizer vaccine for those under 30 years of age only, and Moderna Spikevax will be offered to those 30 years of age and above.** This is due to data showing the increase in the number of reports of pericarditis/myocarditis following vaccination for those under 30 with the use of Moderna Spikevax.

The use of Moderna Spikevax and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine can be used interchangeably and everyone is encouraged to take whatever booster vaccine is available. With this being said, the use of Moderna Spikevax is safe and effective when fighting off COVID-19 and is noted by the Ministry of Health as possibly more durable than Pfizer-BioNTech.

Fully vaccinated health care workers (including staff, professional staff, learners and volunteers) at our Hospital who have received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least three months (84 days) ago, are eligible to receive their third dose by drop on or by booking an appointment at the Hospitals onsite vaccination clinic.

Be sure to send your vaccination receipt to Occupational Health and Safety (ohs@tbh.net) as soon as possible, whether you have received your first, second or third dose from the Hospital's clinic or an external source such as your primary health care provider or the Thunder Bay District Health Unit.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our patients, families and other staff members safe.

All Hospital COVID-19 updates and resources are available on the iNtranet at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/>.