

Durham Region Health Department FAX about...



For Health Care Professionals

## COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose Referrals for Immunocompromised

On August 17, the Ontario government announced eligibility for third doses of COVID-19 vaccine for individuals most at risk of serious illness from the virus. Third doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be offered to specific immunocompromised populations who are at highest risk of a reduced or waning immune response to the vaccine.

The following immunocompromised individuals are eligible for a third dose:

- Transplant recipients (including solid organ transplant and hematopoietic stem cell transplants)
- Patients with hematological cancers (examples include lymphoma, myeloma, leukemia) on active treatment (chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy)
- Recipients of an anti-CD20 agent (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab).

The most responsible health care provider (e.g., specialist or specialty clinic) can refer these patients to Lakeridge Health to receive their third dose of vaccine. The **referral form** located on the <u>Lakeridge</u> <u>Health website</u> (or go to <u>www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca</u>, then the COVID-19 Vaccine Information section, and look for NEW Primary Care/Specialist 3<sup>rd</sup> dose Referral Process) **must be faxed** to the hospital at (905) 721-4876.

All patients referred to Lakeridge Health will be contacted, and an appointment will be booked for their third dose of vaccine.

Patients arriving at clinics with a letter from their healthcare provider will not be accepted as walk-ins. All third doses of COVID vaccine will be **by booked appointments only** arranged by Lakeridge Health.

August 30, 2021

