

## **Durham Region Health Department** FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals

## **Medical Exemptions to COVID-19 Vaccination**

Physician and Nurse Practitioners licenced to practice in Ontario are now able to submit medical exemptions for residents of Durham to the Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) using the fillable exemption form available on the submission portal at www.durham.ca/exemptions. Residents with a valid medical exemption will be required to download a QR code to access settings requiring proof of vaccination beginning January 10th, 2022.

Clear medical information that supports an exemption is required. Incomplete forms or missing information will delay processing and result in follow up contact from the health department.

Prior to submitting, please obtain **client consent** for the collection, use and disclosure of personal health information to the DRHD informing clients of the possibility of communications between the practitioner and the Health Department in clarifying the exemption.

Exemptions notes previously provided by physicians or nurse practitioners will not be accepted and will need to be re issued on the exemption form and submitted directly to the DRHD for validation and entry into COVaxON. Submissions provided by individual clients will not be accepted.

There are very few contraindications to available COVID-19 vaccines that would qualify as medical exemptions as most individuals can safely receive COVID-19 vaccines. For more information on medical exemptions, please visit,

https://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/vaccine/medical exemptions to vaccination.pdf

Once submitted and approved, COVaxON will be updated with the medical exemption information for clients to download their certificate and QR code.

January 4, 2022



