

Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals

## COVID-19 Vaccine: Novavax Nuvaxovid availability in Ontario

A limited supply of Novavax Nuvaxovid® COVID-19 vaccine is available to Durham Residents via Health Department community immunization clinics. The vaccine is available to individuals 18 years of age and older who are not able, due to contraindications, or have been waiting for an alternative to the mRNA vaccines. The Novavax Nuvaxovid® vaccine primary series consists of two doses at a recommended interval of at least 56 days (8 weeks). Individuals may receive mixed doses of Novavax Nuvaxovid® and mRNA vaccines. If receiving a mixed primary series or additional booster doses with the Novavax vaccine, informed consent should include a discussion of the benefits and potential risks given the currently limited data on the effectiveness and safety of mixed schedules with the Novavax vaccine.

A **booster dose** of Novavax Nuvaxovid may be offered to individuals regardless of which COVID-19 vaccines were received in the primary series. This recommendation is off-label, as the Novavax Nuvaxovid® COVID-19 vaccine is not currently authorized for use by Health Canada as a booster dose in Canada. The **third dose** will be administered at an interval of **84 days** (three months) following second dose. A **fourth dose** is available to eligible individuals **140 days** (five months) after the first booster.

Unlike the process for accessing other COVID-19 vaccines, **online booking** and **walk-ins** for Novavax **are not available**. Clients who meet eligibility need to call the Health Department's call center to book an appointment: **1-888-444-5113**.

NACI continues to **preferentially recommend** the use of **mRNA COVID-19 vaccines** for most people due to the excellent protection they provide **against severe illness and hospitalization, and their well-known safety profiles.** 

Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine is no longer available at Health Department clinics.

Please refer to the Ministry of Health's <u>COVID-19 Vaccine Administration</u> guidance document for more information about this vaccine. For information about booster doses, please refer to the Ministry of Health's <u>COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose and Booster Recommendations</u>.

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