



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccine Interval Post SARS-CoV-2 Infection

The Ministry of Health has revised the [COVID-19 Vaccine Administration](#) guidance document. **COVID-19 vaccines should be offered to individuals with previous SARS-CoV-2 infection** without contraindications to the vaccine. A **longer interval between infection and vaccination may result in a better immune response**. The table below summarizes the suggested interval between infection and vaccination.

Infection timing relative to COVID-19 vaccination	Population	Suggested interval between infection* and vaccination
Infection prior to completion or initiation of primary vaccination series	Individuals 5 years of age and older who are not considered moderately to severely immunocompromised and with no previous history of MIS-C	8 weeks after symptom onset or positive test (if asymptomatic)
	Individuals 5 years of age and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised and with no previous history of MIS-C	4 to 8 weeks after symptom onset or positive test (if asymptomatic)
	Individuals 5 years of age and older with a previous history of MIS-C (regardless of immunocompromised status)	Receive vaccine after clinical recovery or ≥ 90 days since the onset of MIS-C, whichever is longer
Infection after primary series but before booster dose	Individuals 18 years of age and older currently eligible for a booster dose	3 months after symptom onset or positive test (if asymptomatic)
	Individuals 12-17 years of age currently eligible for a booster dose	3 months after symptom onset or positive test (if asymptomatic) and provided it is at least 6 months (168 days) from completing the primary series

over...



*A previous infection with SARS-CoV-2 is defined as:

- Confirmed by a molecular (e.g., PCR) or rapid antigen test; or
- Symptomatic AND a household contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case.

These intervals are a guide and clinical discretion is advised. When deciding whether or not to adhere to the suggested intervals outlined in table below, **risk factors for exposure and severe disease should be considered.**

These suggested waiting times are intended to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 at an immunization venue and enable monitoring for COVID-19 vaccine adverse events without potential attribution to symptoms of COVID-19 or other co-existing illnesses.

If vaccinating within a shortened interval,

- **the individual should no longer be considered infectious,**
- **symptoms of acute illness should be completely resolved, and**
- **their isolation period must be completed.**

Additional information is available via [Ministry of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Administration](#)

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

