

COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan

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Executive Summary

The goal of the COVID-19 immunization program is to:

- Protect the most high risk and vulnerable.
- Minimize serious illness and death.
- Protect the capacity of the health care system.
- Minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Saskatchewan has utilized a phased approach to deliver COVID-19 vaccines. This began in December 2020 with a pilot project that immunized approximately 1,950 health care workers. The remaining population were phased for vaccination based on their risk of developing severe COVID-19 disease. Once COVID-19 vaccine supply was stable, the remaining population became eligible for their first doses and second doses. First and second doses continue to be offered to the population. Health Canada approved the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for youth aged 12 to 17 years in May, 2021; this population continues to be eligible. A phased approach for booster doses is underway.

The first phase of the plan focused on vaccinating high-risk populations, such as people of advanced age and health care workers more likely to be in direct contact with COVID-19 positive patients.

Phase 2 vaccination eligibility focused on the general population in 10-year age increments, starting with ages 60-69, and proceeding to younger groups. Age groups were broadened quickly as sufficient vaccine supplies were received.

Targeted vaccinations for residents and staff of congregate adult living settings, such as group homes and shelters, and clinically extremely vulnerable adults were also included as a priority in Phase 2. Close collaboration with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and First Nations and Métis leadership assisted in timely vaccination delivery to those communities. An agreement is in place between the Ministry of Health and ISC; COVID-19 vaccines are directly allocated to ISC to further distribute to First Nations communities, including close collaboration with the Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA).

It is evident that the highest risk factor for more serious disease and poor outcomes, including death, is age. People of advanced age are also more likely to be immunocompromised or living with other chronic conditions. Those who have immunocompromised conditions do not mount an adequate immune response to two doses of vaccine; therefore, a third dose provides increased immunity. Evidence shows those 65 years of age and over have waning immunity six months after their second dose and a booster will increase immunity. Providing booster doses to these populations provides increased protection to the most vulnerable.

Booster Program

Phase 1 of the Booster program began on September 7, 2021; eligible populations include long - term care facility and personal care home residents and select immunocompromised populations.

Phase 2A began on October 4, 2021; eligible populations include those 80 years and older in the community and additional select immunocompromised populations.

Phase 2B, effective October 25, 2021 includes individuals 65 years of age and older, individuals living in the Far North and those living on First Nations Communities aged 50 years and older, health care workers and individuals born in 2009 or earlier with underlying health conditions that cause them to be clinically extremely vulnerable.

Letters of eligibility were provided to immunocompromised individuals in Phase 1 and 2A and those with underlying health conditions in Phase 2B.

Pediatric Program

A pediatric vaccine immunization program for children five to 11 years of age is expected to be implemented shortly after vaccine approval from Health Canada. The delivery plan for this age group will include school-based clinics, existing COVID-19 vaccine clinics and pharmacies.

Pending Health Canada approval, we expect approximately 112,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine to provide a first dose to 5-11 year olds. In the event of a reduced supply, the SK Clinical Expert Advisory Committee will be consulted.

Children are at lower risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19, however to minimize the spread of COVID-19 it is important to immunize as many eligible children safely, and as quickly as possible. In October, 24% of cases are unvaccinated children 11 years of age and under; there have been hospitalizations and deaths in this age group.

Pfizer studies indicate their vaccine had no safety concerns noted among children 5 to 11 years of age. The studies also showed that expected vaccine side effects (such as soreness at the injection site and fatigue, headaches, muscle aches and chills) were well tolerated and resolved in 1-2 days. Children 5 to 11 years old have very good immune responses when they receive 2 doses as recommended.

Vaccination is voluntary. Informed parental/guardian consent must be provided and will be documented in the child's immunization record. Parents/guardians can access their child's immunization record through MySaskHealthRecord.

A cornerstone of Saskatchewan's COVID-19 immunization program is accessibility. The SHA will be offering **191** vaccine clinics across the province in **121** communities. As planning progresses, there will also be an average of 18 pop-up/outreach clinics/week (72/month) targeting pediatric vaccine opportunities across the province. Teams will continue to partner with school divisions to create additional vaccination opportunities which will accommodate parent/legal guardian attendance.

Residents can obtain access to vaccine through appointments — booked online or via a telephone booking system, through non-appointment drive-thru clinics, walk-in, outreach clinics and through participating pharmacies. The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) operates clinics around the province. First Nations organizations operate clinics in First Nations communities throughout the province.

Community pharmacies can immunize those who are five years of age and older. Visit [Saskatchewan.ca/covid19-vaccine](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19-vaccine) to see the list of pharmacies participating in the administration of pediatric COVID-19 vaccine to those who are five to 11 years of age.

Planning is underway to have COVID-19 vaccine available through physician offices throughout the province. Increasing the number of physician offices offering the vaccine will increase accessibility.

Effective October 1, 2021 the Government of Saskatchewan mandated proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test result for the public to access a range of businesses, and event venues, as well as for all Government of Saskatchewan ministry, crown and agency employees. This resulted in an increase in demand for first and second doses.

Information is available to Saskatchewan residents via direct mail, social media, public services announcements, television and radio advertisements, and online at www.saskatchewan.ca/COVID19-vaccine that provides information on:

- Eligibility for boosters;
- How to book a vaccine appointment, and locations of walk-in clinics;
- The different type of immunization clinics available;
- How to find the closest clinics to you; and
- Vaccine information.

A full listing of clinic locations and times is available at www.saskatchewan.ca/COVID19-vaccine. Residents can also call **1-833-SASK-VAX (1-833-727-5829)** – a toll-free phone line – to book appointments. The online scheduling system is available on www.saskatchewan.ca.

COVID-19 Vaccines

The development of COVID-19 vaccines has progressed quickly around the world due to advances in science and technology, unprecedented funding, and increased international collaboration.

Scientists have also been aided by previous work on similar viruses. Since SARS-CoV-2, the scientific name for COVID-19, is a coronavirus, it has similar characteristics to previous ones, including the original SARS virus. As a result, there was an existing foundation to build upon when work began on the development of a vaccine for COVID-19.

There are more than 150 potential COVID-19 vaccines in various stages of development around the world. The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has pre-purchase agreements in place with seven manufacturers of COVID-19 vaccine, including:

1. Pfizer-BioNTech
2. Moderna
3. AstraZeneca
4. Johnson & Johnson
5. Novavax
6. Medicago
7. Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline

Currently, AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, referred to also as J&J or Janssen, are the only COVID-19 vaccines approved for use by Health Canada. Pfizer and Moderna are both messenger ribonucleic acid (RNA) vaccines, also called mRNA vaccines. These types of vaccines instruct cells to make proteins, leading to the development of antibodies to fight the COVID-19 virus.

- Pfizer and Moderna are 95 per cent effective in preventing COVID-19.
- Two doses of the vaccines are required for the highest effectiveness.
- Booster doses are offered to select populations to address waning immunity.

AstraZeneca and J&J are viral vector-based vaccines. These vaccines use a virus as the delivery system, but it is a harmless virus that does not cause COVID-19. Like all vaccines approved by Health Canada, viral vector-based vaccines are held to high safety and quality standards.

- AstraZeneca (two doses) and J&J (one dose) are +60% effective in preventing COVID-19.
- Booster doses are offered to select populations, who received AstraZeneca, to address waning immunity.

Vaccine Supply

As of October 22, 2021, Saskatchewan has received a total of 2,179,605 doses of COVID-19 vaccines between December 2020 to October 2021 from the Government of Canada, providing the opportunity for every Saskatchewan resident age 12 years and older to be vaccinated.

During the first quarter of 2021, there was limited vaccine supply with many vaccine supply disruptions causing delays to administration. However, into the second quarter of 2021 vaccine supply became more stable and Saskatchewan received the amount of vaccine expected to meet vaccination delivery schedules.

There has been a shift in available vaccine supply from limited quantities during initial roll out to a strong supply. This has allowed a “pull system” to be established in Canada where additional COVID-19 vaccine can be brought into the province on an as needed basis from the federal reserve.

AstraZeneca Vaxzevria® is currently the only viral vector COVID-19 vaccine available for administration in Canada and its use includes administration to individuals who have a contraindication to the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna).

Although J&J is approved for use in Canada, due to manufacturing plant issues, the federal government has not yet distributed J&J but continues to work on securing a supply for Canada. Saskatchewan has requested 10,000 doses of J&J when it is available in Canada.

As COVID-19 vaccines are approved for use in pediatric populations more information on vaccine supply and allocations will be provided by the Government of Canada. If initial pediatric vaccine supply is limited, prioritization of the pediatric population will occur based on national recommendations from the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations (NACI) and provincial recommendations from the Clinical Expert Advisory Committee.

Approach

Saskatchewan’s immunization delivery plan is based on a phased approach to providing vaccination. During initial roll out while vaccine supply was limited, it was based on ensuring the highest priority people – and those most at risk – received access to the vaccine first.

Saskatchewan collaborated closely with Indigenous partners to allocate and administer vaccines to First Nations and Métis communities. With an agreement in place between the Ministry of Health and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), vaccine is allocated to ISC directly, who then further distributes vaccine to on-reserve populations. Urban Indigenous and Metis populations continue to be vaccinated by the SHA.

More than 9000 staff across the province have been on the front lines of SHA immunization campaign with hundreds working behind the scenes. Over 800 external stakeholders, agencies and partners have helped to coordinate and deliver the campaign.

Immunization Delivery for First and Second Doses

Several strategies were implemented to improve vaccine accessibility to achieve herd immunity. Herd or community immunity also known as 'population immunity', is the indirect protection from an infectious disease that happens when a population is immune either through vaccination or immunity developed through previous infection. The World Health Organization (WHO) supports achieving 'herd immunity' through vaccination, not by allowing a disease to spread through any segment of the population, as this would result in unnecessary cases and death.

Key milestones for Saskatchewan's immunization delivery plan include:

- December 15, 2020- first COVID-19 vaccines administered as part of Pilot project.
- December 22, 2020- Phase 1 began targeting priority populations, including long-term care and personal care home residents and staff and priority health care workers.
- March 18, 2021- Phase 2 began targeting the general population based on age and expanded high risk populations.
- May 20, 2021- all Saskatchewan residents age 12 years and older were eligible for a first dose.
- June 24, 2021- all Saskatchewan residents age 12 years and older who received their first dose of vaccine were eligible to receive their second dose.
- September 7, 2021 – Booster program for select populations began.
- Pediatric vaccination program launch for children 5-11 years – Early November - date to be confirmed.

Immunization Delivery for Booster Doses

On August 31, 2021, Saskatchewan announced it would begin offering booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine to select populations. A phased approach has been implemented to vaccinate eligible target populations.

Phase 1 – effective September 7, 2021 the following individuals are eligible for booster doses 28 days after the second dose:

- Transplant recipients (including solid organ transplant and hematopoietic stem cell transplants)
- Recipients of stable, active treatment (chemotherapy, targeted therapies, immunotherapy) for malignant hematologic disorders
- Recipients of an anti-CD20 agent (e.g. rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab)
- Residents of Long-Term Care Homes (special care homes and personal care homes)

Phase 2A – effective October 4, 2021 the following individuals 80 years and over are eligible for a booster dose 6 months after the second dose. In addition, the following are eligible for booster doses 28 days after the second dose:

- Individuals who are moderately to severely immunosuppressed:

- Individuals with primary or acquired immunodeficiency:
 - » Including but not limited to poorly controlled HIV/AIDS (i.e a current CD4 count of <200 cells/ μ l for adults or children)
 - » primary or acquired cellular and combined immune deficiencies
- Individuals on immunosuppressive or immunomodulating therapy at the time of vaccination including:
 - » those who were receiving or had received in the previous 3 months targeted therapy and/or immune modulating therapy for autoimmune disease
 - » those who were receiving or had received in the previous 6 months immunosuppressive chemotherapy or radiotherapy for any indication
- Individuals with chronic immune-mediated inflammatory disease who were receiving or had received immunosuppressive therapy prior to vaccination including:
 - » ex. methotrexate, azathioprine
- Individuals who had received high-dose steroids (equivalent to >40mg prednisolone per day for more than a week) for any reason in the month before vaccination.

Phase 2B – effective October 25, 2021 the following individuals are eligible for booster doses **6 months after the second dose:**

- Individuals aged 65 years and older
- Individuals living in the Far North and those living on First Nation communities, aged 50 years and older
- All health care workers (must present a copy of their license from their professional licensing body, a workplace pay stub at the point of immunization or, if they are an SHA employee, their Saskatchewan Health Authority staff identification)
- Individuals born in 2009 or earlier with underlying health conditions that are clinically extremely vulnerable, 6 months post second dose. The following conditions apply:
 - » People with severe respiratory conditions, including all cystic fibrosis, severe asthma and severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
 - » People with rare diseases that significantly increase the risk of infections (such as homozygous sickle cell disease)
 - » People who had their spleen removed
 - » People with very significant developmental disabilities that increase risk (such as Down's Syndrome).
 - » People on dialysis or with chronic kidney disease (stage 5)
 - » Significant neuromuscular conditions requiring respiratory support

Phase 3 – eligibility groups to be determined based on emerging evidence and further national recommendations.

Immunization Delivery for Pediatric Populations

It is expected Pfizer-BioNTech will provide the first pediatric COVID-19 vaccine available to children age 5 to 11 years old and will require two doses. We expect enough Pfizer vaccine to provide 100% coverage of first doses to all 5 to 11 year olds.

Pending Health Canada approval, first shipments could arrive in SK week of November 8, 2021. Delivery dates are subject to change. In the event of a reduced supply of vaccine, the SK Clinical Expert Advisory Committee will be consulted.

Pediatric vaccines (5-11 years old) are a different formulation and/or dosage, depending upon manufacturer, than the current formulations for 12 years and older.

. The Pfizer pediatric vaccine is a different formulation from the current vaccine for +12 years. A new stabilizer (Tris/Sucrose) allows the thawed vaccine to be stored for 10 weeks, whereas the +12 formulation is stable for 4 weeks in the fridge. The dosage will be 0.2 ml given in the upper arm muscle. The +12 dosage is 0.3ml. Pfizer will be a 2-dose schedule, 21 days apart with possibility of extending to 8 weeks between doses. All vaccine related supplies, including needles will be provided by the federal government.

Pfizer-BioNTech is conducting clinical trials for children 6 months to under 5 years of age.

Parents of children five to 11 years of age will be able to seek out immunization at community pharmacies, SHA and First Nation vaccine clinics. Fear of needles causing heightened anxiety and stress is very common in this age group. To maintain physical and psychological safety, parent, guardian, or family member attendance will be encouraged for this age group.

Clinics will be offered where this population lives, learns, and plays such as libraries, learning centers, community centers, sports centers, etc. A blended approach of school, community, mass, child health clinics, acute care units, mobile, and outreach clinics will be provided to this population offering both booked and walk-in opportunities.

Communication and planning for vaccine delivery for 5 to 11 year olds with school divisions have been initiated in many areas across the province. Teams are working with schools to develop a plan for family clinics during or after school hours that will allow parents, guardians, and family members to attend and will leverage school events such as teacher parent conferences, community meetings, school activities etc.

The SHA will leverage existing partnerships with Community Based Organizations, newcomer organizations, First Nation and Métis community leaders, family physicians, social service etc. to optimize vaccination opportunities.

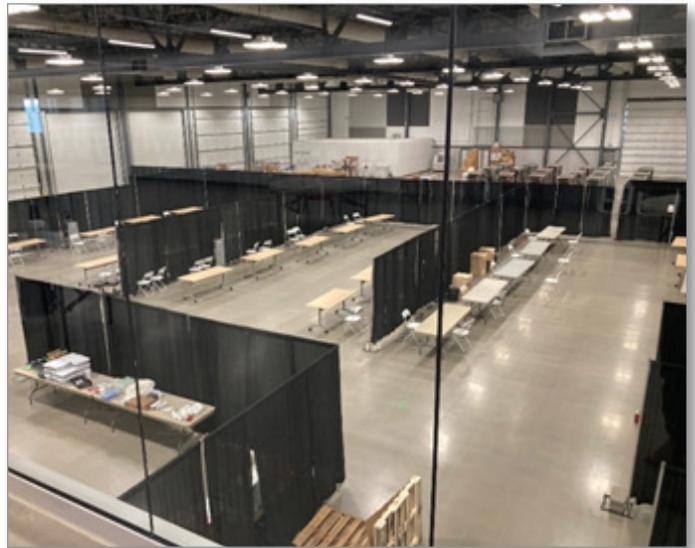
Accessibility

Accessibility to vaccination for the people of Saskatchewan is a cornerstone of the COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan. People have options on where, how and when they want to be immunized. The SHA, pharmacies and First Nation communities are offering COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations at the same time.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority offers clinics throughout the province. There are also clinics in First Nations communities and vaccination is available at participating pharmacies. A combination of large and targeted clinics are used to reach vulnerable populations. With a service delivery model focused on delivering vaccine to the people of Saskatchewan where they live, work and gather, there are and have been many clinic options available, including:

- Mass immunization clinics
- Drive-thru clinics
- Mobile and pop-up clinics
- Community clinics
- Pharmacies
- Some physician offices

Through clinics, there are options available for scheduled and unscheduled vaccination appointments. Clinic volumes are continuously monitored by location and type, and adjustments are made to service delivery options to ensure that community specific needs are met.



In addition to which clinic to attend, Saskatchewan residents also have the option of where to receive it. Although it is available in home communities as much as possible, there are no boundaries on where residents can be vaccinated.

Mass Immunization Clinics

Mass immunization clinics are offered in many communities throughout the province. These clinics are generally operated on a walk-in basis, although appointments are still available for those who prefer to have an appointment. The size of mass immunization clinics varies according to community size.

People are pre-screened prior to entering the facility. Measures are in place to monitor physical distancing requirements, and direct people to the next available immunization station. Seating is provided for those requiring it.

After immunization, people are required to wait in a designated, physically distanced seating area for a minimum of 15 minutes before leaving. Trained staff monitor to ensure there are no adverse effects.

Drive-Thru Clinics

Drive-thru immunization clinics are offered in select communities across the province. Appointments are not required for these clinics.

Drive-thru clinics use separate entry and exit areas, where immunizers deliver vaccinations from outside the vehicles. During pre-screening and immunization, people must remain in their vehicles, and wait a minimum of 15 minutes post-immunization in a designated area to ensure there are no adverse effects. Trained staff move among the parked cars checking on people.

Outreach Clinics

There are outreach clinics operating in and out of numerous communities in the province to ensure vaccine access for people in rural or remote areas. Outreach clinics travel to communities and other designed areas to increase access to immunization.

Community Clinics

Beyond clinics conducted directly by the SHA and First Nation communities, clinics at community pharmacies is the other primary means of administering COVID-19 vaccine to the people of the province.

Participation by pharmacies began with a pilot project in April and vaccine allocations gradually increased in May and June. There are plans in place for pharmacists to participate in the administration of pediatric COVID-19 vaccine to those who are five to 11 years of age. Wholesalers will continue to distribute vaccine to participating pharmacies, as they do with other vaccine programs in the province, such as influenza. Pharmacists increase immunization capacity in the province and allow more Saskatchewan residents to be immunized closer to home.

Clinic Locations

With clinics operated by the SHA, First Nations and pharmacies in communities around the province, Saskatchewan residents have plenty of access to COVID-19 immunization.

In rural and remote areas, the location of clinics is intended to minimize travel and bring vaccines closer to people. Outreach clinics are being utilized to administer vaccine to people in harder-to-reach locations, including vulnerable populations.

In larger urban areas with multiple clinics operated by the SHA, clinics are spread out to achieve as much distribution across the city as possible, with a focus on reaching vulnerable populations. However, where necessary, locations may use larger facilities to take advantage of economies of scale.

In the far north, the Athabasca Health Authority continue to administer vaccine in Stony Rapids, Uranium City, Fond du Lac and Black Lake.

Hours of Operation

The days and hours of operation may vary across the province depending on the size of communities and the populations targeted for immunization, such as boosters and pediatrics.

Booking an Appointment

In Phase 1 of the Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan, communication with priority populations happened in a targeted and localized manner due to the limited supplies of vaccine. When vaccine supplies stabilized, communication took place in the following ways:

- Public service announcements
- Area-specific social media posts
- Posters, videos and visuals
- Vaccine Clinic webpage

In some cases, direct contact with seniors occurred (e.g. home care lists). This was used in instances where the supply of vaccines was limited in order to align capacity with demand.

Book an Appointment Online

Since March 2021, the SHA is utilizing an online scheduling system to facilitate the booking process through the Government of Saskatchewan website at www.saskatchewan.ca. The system allows people to:

- Access a secure booking website from their smart device or computer.
- Book appointments for themselves and/or family members.
- Select clinics on a map or by a list of available clinics (geo-locate).
- Select clinics based on vaccine types. Most clinics offer all vaccines but there some that will only have one type of vaccine.
- Select an appointment at a specific clinic or select a preferred time for immunization.

Call for an Appointment

For those who do not wish to book an appointment online, they can also call to schedule an immunization through the provincial vaccine scheduling office.

- This option is also used to book appointments for health care workers or other priority populations.
- People can call 1-833-SASK-VAX (1-833-727-5829) – a toll free line
- Callers will receive a live scheduling clerk who will screen for eligibility and book an appointment.

Keeping People Informed

Communication is a core element of the Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan. Information is shared extensively across the province to let people know:

- When they can get their third/booster dose
- How to register for a vaccine appointment.
- Where to find the closest clinics to them.
- The different types of immunization clinics available.

All clinic and registration information is available on the Government of Saskatchewan website at www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19-vaccine.

Public advertising takes place across a number of platforms, including print, digital and mainstream news media. In addition to advertising, information is also available through:

- Social media
- Local publications
- Posters
- Direct mail
- News conferences

As of September 29, 2021 the SHA promoted the vaccine to the public through:

- Over 170 Public Service announcements
- Over 1900 Posters, videos and visuals
- Over 2900 Social media posts
- Over 3.3 million visits to the COVID-19 vaccine clinic webpage since March 1

Misinformation/Disinformation Security

Advertising in Saskatchewan reflects strong branding and clear messaging at all times. By building on the existing materials available from the Public Health Agency of Canada, vaccine hesitancy and myth-busting addresses misinformation plainly and factually. Saskatchewan leverages regular town hall opportunities to relay important information and resources to internal and external partners, building a strong network of consistent messages that emphasize the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines

Engagement and Oversight

Engagement is a key element of the implementation of Saskatchewan's Immunization Delivery Plan. Initially, a multi-stakeholder and multi-level planning committee structure was established to provide oversight and organization to Saskatchewan's Immunization Delivery Plan. This structure consisted of a number of planning committees including a COVID-19 Oversight planning committee, a Clinical Expert Advisory Committee, an Indigenous Advisory Committee and a Municipal Advisory Committee as well as a number of task teams. In June 2021, the oversight and planning committee structure was sunset with the exception of the Clinical Expert Advisory Committee, the Distribution and Logistics Task Team, and the Adverse Events Following Immunization Review Committee.

On October 7, 2021 the Government of Saskatchewan announced the Provincial Command is being activated through the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) to lead the emergency management response to COVID-19. The PEOC is a joint management team that includes representatives from the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency, the Ministry of Health and the Saskatchewan Health Authority. It is responsible for the operational, planning, logistical and administrative aspects of the emergency response to COVID-19 including:

- Ongoing inventory management of staffing across the healthcare system
- Coordination and deployment of provincial supports and activities across multiple

COVID-19 Immunization Planning Clinical Experts Advisory Committee

Representation from the Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Health Authority and University of Saskatchewan in the following areas:

- Integrated Rural Health
- Integrated Urban Health
- Modelling and Evidence Analysis
- Public Health/Immunization
- Ethics
- First Nations and Métis Health
- Clinicians
- Employee Health
- Human Resources Impact
- Patient and Family Partner
- Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority

Roles and Responsibilities

- Providing advice and recommendations on the prioritization, sequencing and roll out of COVID-19 vaccines across Saskatchewan.
- Ensuring advice and recommendations are made within an ethical framework.
- Providing advice and recommendations consistent with patient and family-centred care.
- Helping develop decision-making processes to determine priority populations for COVID-19 immunization.
- Developing recommendations based on the latest evidence on COVID-19 and immunization research.
- Providing advice and recommendations to help remove the barriers to a successful immunization program.

COVID-19 Immunization Planning Distribution and Logistics Task Team

Representation from the Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Health Authority, Indigenous Services Canada and Northern Intertribal Health Authority in the following areas:

- Public Health/Immunization
- Inventory and Distribution
- Pharmacy
- Vaccine Management

Roles and Responsibilities

- Provide information that will inform the development of the Saskatchewan COVID-19 Provincial Vaccine Allocation Schedule.
- Review and provide input to any work standard processes that involve the distribution and/or logistics to the COVID 19 vaccine in Saskatchewan.
- Provide knowledge and experience on the current processes for vaccine distribution and determine how current state practices can be utilized or provide guidance on how to implement future state adjustments.
- Align long term COVID-19 vaccine distribution with established provincial immunization distribution practices (i.e. influenza immunization).

COVID-19 Immunization Planning Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) Task Group

Representation from the Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Health Authority, and Indigenous Services Canada in the following areas:

- Medical Health Officers
- Public Health Nursing
- Special Immunization Clinic

Roles and Responsibilities

- Provide ongoing and timely medical, scientific and public health advice and recommendations related to adverse events following immunization with COVID-19 vaccines.
- Communicate COVID-19 AEFI reporting criteria to immunization providers.
- Review submitted reports and provide client recommendation.
- Alert provincial and national stakeholders about potential or confirmed safety signals, including posting as required.