



Suggested Media

Instructions:

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Media Inquiries:

Lloyd Phillips

Commissioner of Public Safety,

Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

lloyd.phillips@mck.ca

Lisa Westaway

Executive Director,

Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre

[lisa.westaway.kahnawake](mailto:lisa.westaway.kahnawake@ssss.gouv.qc.ca)

[@ssss.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:lisa.westaway.kahnawake@ssss.gouv.qc.ca)

COMMUNIQUÉ

COVID-19 Booster Vaccines for Immunocompromised Residents now available by appointment only

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 16, Seskehkó:wa/September 2021) The Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre (KMHC) and the Public Safety Commission wish to inform the community that COVID-19 booster vaccines will be made available to specific Kahnawa'kehró:non who meet the criteria. It is recommended that a third (3rd) dose of the COVID-19 vaccine be given to anyone aged 12 years and older who is considered **immunocompromised** or who is currently **undergoing dialysis** treatment. This third dose is intended to increase the immune response, and thereby increase the level of vaccine protection, in people who are particularly vulnerable to infection with COVID-19.

Eligibility criteria for booster doses:

- Congenital Immunodeficiency (e.g., agammaglobulinemia and hypogammaglobulinemia, Di George Syndrome)
- Leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, or other non-blood related cancers (immunosuppression either from the illness or from treatment)
- Immunosuppressing medical/drug treatments (chemotherapy, radiation, corticosteroids, biologics for auto-immune conditions)
- Acquired immunodeficiency (HIV/ AIDS)

Third doses of the COVID-19 vaccine are now available through the KMHC for community members who meet the aforementioned eligibility criteria for immunosuppression. mRNA vaccines (Pfizer BioNTech or Moderna) will be administered to all those who are eligible. If you are uncertain of your eligibility, this can be verified through your Family Doctor or through a nurse at KMHC.

People who have previously received 2 doses of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer BioNTech or Moderna) will receive a third dose of the same vaccine, as long as it has been at least 4 weeks since their last dose. People who have previously received 1 dose of Covishield and 1 dose of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer BioNTech or Moderna) will receive a second dose of an mRNA vaccine, to complete their vaccination series, as long as it has been at least 4 weeks since their last dose.

Community members are asked to please contact the Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre to schedule an appointment to receive booster doses of COVID-19 vaccines at: 450-638-3930 ext. 2295. Appointments must be scheduled in advance; we cannot accommodate walk-ins at the current time.