

To: All Horizon Staff and Physicians

From: Karen McGrath, President and CEO, Horizon Health Network

CC: Jean Daigle, VP Community, Horizon Health Network
Greg Sargent, Director, Public Health & Primary Health Care, Miramichi area

Date: Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020

Re: **New Brunswick and Horizon's Immunization Plan for COVID-19**

The Government of New Brunswick announced today its New Brunswick Immunization Plan for COVID-19. New Brunswick will receive 1,950 doses of COVID-19 vaccine the week of Dec. 14.

As well, Horizon has established a Horizon COVID-19 Vaccine Planning Committee. The committee, chaired by Jean Daigle, our VP Community, will ensure Horizon has a system in place to receive, store, distribute and administer COVID-19 vaccines in a timely, equitable, and safe manner to the population it serves. The work of the planning committee will align with both provincial and national vaccination roll-out strategies.

As such, an initial immunization clinic will be offered for specific priority groups at Horizon's Miramichi Regional Hospital on Dec. 19 and 20.

For Horizon, this includes frontline staff and physicians who have direct patient contact in the following settings: emergency departments, intensive care units, COVID-19 units and COVID-19 assessment centres, and all Public Health staff working at COVID-19 immunization clinics.

Staff who are eligible to receive a vaccination from this first batch of vaccinations will receive an invitation from Miramichi Public Health to book an appointment. Those who consent will receive a two-dose series of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine starting next week.

Staff who receive their first dose in Miramichi **must** return to Miramichi for their second dose at a clinic on Jan. 9 or 10.



The priority group for this first batch of vaccinations includes residents and staff at long-term care facilities, as well as frontline staff from health care organizations in the province (Horizon Health Network, Vitalité Health Network, Ambulance New Brunswick and New Brunswick Extra-Mural Program). More invitations will be sent than doses currently available.

However, additional deliveries of vaccine are scheduled to arrive in the province beginning the week of Dec. 28, with subsequent clinics being added all seven (7) health care zones across the province in January 2021. This means there will be a clinic in your zone in the near future.

We understand you may have many questions about this new vaccine. Attached is an information sheet answering frequently asked questions related to the vaccine.

This is will be a unique opportunity for our frontline health care personnel to obtain valuable protection against this virus and to be part of this historical phase of the COVID-19 pandemic in our province. Thank you for your continued support and response in keeping New Brunswickers safe.

Sincerely,

Karen McGrath
President and CEO
Horizon Health Network

