

To: All staff and physicians
From: Christie Ruff, Regional Director Employee Health, Wellness and Safety
Date: July 19, 2022
Re: **COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Update**

Vaccines are our best defence against severe outcomes from COVID-19. Horizon would like to remind you and make you aware that the provincial government has [lowered the age eligibility](#) for a second COVID-19 booster dose (from age 50 to age 18) effective July 12, 2022.

The provincial government has also updated its COVID-19 vaccination policy for employees of the Public Service who work in vulnerable sectors (facilities of the regional health authorities, EMP-Ambulance NB and corrections, as well as nursing homes and adult residential facilities). The amended policy also applies to volunteers, on-site vendors, suppliers, and contractors.

Effective Aug. 31, 2022, the definition of full vaccination for employees working in these vulnerable sectors has been updated based on the advice of Public Health.

- **Full vaccination (up to date)** will require the two primary doses plus a booster with the latest dose being received no more than six months ago.
 - **For example:** Any employee who received a booster on or before March 1, 2022 will need to receive another booster by Aug. 31 to be considered fully vaccinated.
 - Any employee who received a booster on May 15, 2022 will need to get a booster by Nov. 15, 2022 to be considered fully vaccinated.

If you have had COVID-19 in the last six months, please see FAQs: [When should I get vaccinated after a COVID-19 Infection?](#)

Effective Sept. 1, 2022, employees without a booster dose within the previous six months and who work in vulnerable settings will be required to follow all **workplace mitigation measures** determined by their employer, based on Public Health guidance, until they provide proof of full vaccination.

What are the workplace mitigation measures?

- **Health Care Worker (HCW) Scenario Guidelines:** Additional testing for Scenario 5 is required for HCWs who are not up to date with their COVID-19

vaccine. Employees will be required to notify their manager and complete POCT and PCR testing when in close contact with a COVID-19 positive case in their home or in the community. The updated HCW scenario guidelines can be found [here](#).

- **POCT testing:** POCT is available for any HCW who chooses to test three times per week and can be obtained through your unit/department manager upon request. There is no requirement to report negative results. Please notify Employee Health with positive results.
- **Masking:** Appropriate masking (per PPE guidelines) per facility guidelines.
- **Screening:** Symptom screening is required at the beginning of every shift as outlined on screening posters posted at all employee/physician entrances. Questions for employees and physicians are available [here](#).

Where can I receive my second booster?

Community pharmacies: vaccine appointments can be booked through community pharmacies using this [online portal](#).

Upcoming Employee Health and Wellness (EHW) clinics: Beginning Aug. 10, Employee Health and Wellness will host weekly vaccination clinics every Wednesday.

To request an appointment at one of our on-site clinics please see below:

Fredericton	452-5469	Room 2311A within the cafeteria, 2nd Floor, DECRH
Moncton	857-5373	5400, TMH
Miramichi	623-3219	Level 2, same area as EH and Library Services, MRH
Saint John	648-6959	Level Zero, Employee Health, SJRH