

To: Managers and Physicians
From: Margaret Melanson, VP, Quality and Patient Centred Care
Date: Nov. 19, 2021
Re: **Vaccination Requirements for Designated Support Persons**

Designated Support Persons (DSPs) for eligible inpatients and outpatients must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. These individuals are required to show proof of vaccination along with government issued ID to screeners upon entry to all Horizon facilities. This measure is required for the safety of our vulnerable patients/clients, employees, and physicians.

Eligible patients will be asked to appoint fully vaccinated DSPs to participate in the DSP program. Patients who are already participating in the program will be asked to appoint an alternate fully vaccinated DSP if their current DSP(s) is not fully vaccinated.

Only in exceptional circumstances, where an alternate fully vaccinated DSP is not available, will an unvaccinated DSP be permitted entry to Horizon facilities. In these situations, all unvaccinated DSPs must comply with **essential COVID-19 testing requirements** as outlined in the [Interim DSP COVID-19 Vaccination/Testing Guidelines](#).

The DSP Guidelines and Operational Plan are currently being revised and will be shared with staff once finalized.

Until these updated Guidelines are completed, please continue to refer to the [Interim DSP COVID-19 Vaccination/Testing Guidelines](#) in the management of unvaccinated DSPs.

Thank you for your patience and consideration as the detailed plans are completed.

