



## MEDIA RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Over 80? Have Certain Health Conditions? Please Consult with Your Healthcare Provider Before Getting COVID-19 Vaccine

As Peterborough Public Health prepares to open its mass vaccination clinics later this month, it is asking local residents over 80 years old with certain health conditions to consult with their healthcare provider about getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

According to Ministry of Health guidelines, it is recommended that anyone who is immunocompromised, or who has had allergic reactions to past vaccines, consult with their physician or other primary care provider before receiving any COVID-19 vaccination. Individuals with these conditions will be asked to attest that they have spoken with their healthcare provider upon arrival at the vaccination clinics.

“We appreciate how keen our elders are to get vaccinated, so while they are waiting for the COVax booking system to open up, we encourage them to meet with their doctor or Nurse Practitioner to discuss their health conditions and how to best proceed with getting immunized,” said Dr. Rosana Salvaterra, Medical Officer of Health. “In some cases, individuals may be referred to a special vaccination clinic designed for those with certain health conditions.”

PPH has updated its [website with information](#) for residents who are 80+ years and created a [guidance document](#) with directions for special populations and the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. This document includes information on when to consult a healthcare provider, documentation needed, and which clinic to book at when booking is available.

Residents who are 80+ years are also encouraged to identify someone who may be able to assist with online booking and transportation to the clinic.

Residents 80+ years are included as part of [Phase 1](#) in the [Ontario Vaccine Distribution Plan](#). Booking for residents 80+ years will begin March 15 for vaccination clinics taking place later that week. Once operational, Peterborough Public Health expects to immunize 1,000 people/day. There are approximately 7,000 adults over 80 years old living in the Peterborough area.

#### For further information, please contact:

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