

Date:	September 24, 2020
To:	All medical staff
From:	Physician Medical Services Executive Council (PMSEC)
Re:	Important Update Regarding Mandatory Vaccinations

To: All Medical Staff – Important Update Regarding Mandatory Vaccinations

On September 13, 2021, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) announced that all employees, medical staff and other service providers who work in identified care locations in the health sector will be required to be fully (two doses) vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 26, 2021. This expands the current requirement, which applies to health care workers in long-term care, assisted living for seniors and other residential care settings, to other care settings. The PHO Order in support of this announcement, with specific details, is expected to be issued in the coming days.

Thank you to all of our medical staff and service providers who have already been vaccinated. Your actions have helped ensure the safety of your colleagues and community members of **Northern Health**.

For anyone who have still have questions about COVID-19 vaccines, detailed information is available on the BCCDC website at:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care/covid-19-vaccinations/healthcare-provider-q-a>

We understand that the PHO Order will require staff in acute care hospitals, home support, and any staff or other service providers who interact with client/patients/residents in facility and community care settings such as adult day care, mental health services, home nursing care, nursing support services in schools, patient medical homes, community health centres, public health units, emergency health services, and laboratory and diagnostic facilities to receive a second vaccine dose on or before October 25, 2021. It is unknown at this time whether it will apply in other settings or to other services. If you provide services in any of these settings and are not yet vaccinated, it is important that you are vaccinated immediately in order to avoid consequences. The following deadlines apply:

September 27, 2021 – Deadline for First Dose of Vaccine

If you have not received your first vaccination dose, please do so immediately. In order to meet the October 26, 2021 deadline, you must receive your first dose on or before September 27, 2021.

October 25, 2021 – Deadline for Second Dose of Vaccine

After you have received your first dose, you must receive your second dose on or before October 25, 2021.

October 26, 2021 – Both Vaccine Doses Required to Provide Services

If you have not received your second dose before October 26, 2021, you will not be permitted to provide services in identified care locations, which will result in a loss of compensation and other consequences up to and including suspension/termination of privileges and/or termination of contracts.

Do not wait – get vaccinated as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about this upcoming requirement please contact your area Medical Director.