

March 18, 2022

TO: Saskatchewan Health Authority
Saskatchewan Medical Association
Saskatchewan College of Paramedics
College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan
Northern Intertribal Health Authority
Indigenous Services Canada- Saskatchewan Region
Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
Saskatchewan College of Respiratory Therapists
Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan
Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Moderna's Spikevax COVID-19 Vaccine Authorized for Children 6-11 Years Old

Health Canada has authorized Moderna's Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine for children **six to 11** years of age on March 17, 2022. **The same formulation is to be used for all eligible ages; do not dilute Moderna's Spikevax vaccine.** The National Advisory Committee on Immunization has published *Recommendations on the use of Moderna Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine in children 6 to 11 years of age* (2022-03-17) at <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/statement-recommendations-use-moderna-spikevax-covid-19-vaccine.pdf>

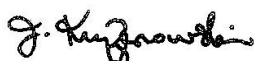
Effective **immediately**, children **six to 11** years old are eligible to receive 0.25 ml (50 mcg) IM doses of Moderna's Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine for their primary series as an alternative to Pfizer's Pediatric five to 11 years vaccine formulation. **Children younger than six years old are ineligible to be immunized with Moderna's Spikevax vaccine.**

Although no reports of myocarditis or pericarditis were reported in Moderna's clinical trial for children six to 11 years old, the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech's Comirnaty vaccine is preferred to the use of the Moderna's Spikevax vaccine in children to minimize the rare risk of myocarditis and/or pericarditis following vaccination in this age group.

Indirect data from adult populations suggest Moderna's Spikevax may result in higher vaccine effectiveness after a 2-dose primary series compared to Pfizer's Comirnaty and is associated with a higher seroconversion rate among adult immunocompromised patients. Given this potential benefit, administration of Moderna's Spikevax vaccine as a 3-dose primary series may be considered for some immunocompromised individuals six to 11 years of age (NACI, 2022-03-17).

Booster doses for individuals younger than 12 years of age are not recommended at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Kryzanowski".

Dr. Julie Kryzanowski
Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer

