

COVID-19 Update

Employee and Physician Information



TO: All Eastern Health Staff and Physicians

FROM: Collette Smith, Vice President – Human Resources

DATE: October 29, 2021

RE: **Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy**

On October 15th, 2021, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced the [Mandatory Vaccination policy](#), applicable to all public service employees in core provincial government departments, as well as agencies, boards and commissions, this includes Eastern Health. Ensuring the health and safety of everyone who works and receives care at our facilities by preventing the transmission of COVID-19 is of utmost importance. It is vital that all Eastern Health Staff are protected by being fully vaccinated, and that our patients/residents/clients are cared for and supported by a fully vaccinated team. The COVID-19 Vaccination Policy takes effect end of day, 11:59pm, **December 16, 2021**. Frequently asked questions are attached.

To provide the safest possible environment for our patients, families, and health-care teams, and in line with government policy, today we are communicating that the COVID-19 vaccination will be mandatory for all employees, physicians, volunteers, and students. **By December 17, 2021**, all Eastern Health employees, physicians (including fee for service physicians), locums, clergy, volunteers, students, vendors, contractors, and suppliers are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have an approved medical exemption. In addition, all new hires on or after December 17, 2021, are required to be fully vaccinated at the time of their employment start date.

Important information as we move forward:

- Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated employees who wish to receive the COVID-19 vaccine can schedule an appointment by visiting <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/vaccine/gettheshot/> or calling 1-833-951-3884 or Occupational Health at 777-7777 (3,2)
- Please review attached Question and Answer document.

We value all of 'Our People' within Eastern Health and are committed to working with you as we implement this policy. Thank you for your cooperation in this important part of our COVID-19 response strategy

Collette Smith
Vice President, Human Resources