



ERIE ST. CLAIR REGIONAL CANCER PATIENTS COVID-19 VACCINE BOOKING INFORMATION

The following information is intended for:

- Patients of the Erie St. Clair Regional Cancer Program who live in Windsor-Essex, Chatham-Kent, and Sarnia-Lambton.
- Patients who are on treatments that might affect the immune system (*e.g.* chemotherapy, immunotherapy, radiation).



STEP 1: BEFORE YOU CALL TO BOOK YOUR VACCINE - TIMING

Consider **TIMING**. The backside of this information sheet describes in detail *when* you should book your vaccine appointment based on your specific treatment. Book your appointment accordingly.



STEP 2: BEFORE YOU CALL TO BOOK YOUR VACCINE - QUESTIONS

Review any **concerns** or **questions** with your Care Team (oncologist, nurse, clerk) at the Cancer Centre. Call 519-253-5253. Some important questions to consider include:

- I had a really bad allergic reaction to my chemotherapy. Am I still safe to take the vaccine?
- I am on a clinical trial. Am I still safe to take the vaccine?
- I recently had a transplant. Am I still safe to take the vaccine?
- I am on a special immunotherapy called Ipilimumab (YERVOY). Am I still safe to take the vaccine?
- I am planning on getting vaccinated during my radiation. Am I still safe to take the vaccine?



STEP 3: BOOKING YOUR VACCINE

Contact your local public health unit to book your vaccine appointment.

- Chatham-Kent Public Health: 519-351-1010 (www.GetYourShotCK.ca)
- Sarnia Lambton Public Health: 519-383-8331 (www.GetTheVaccine.ca)
- Windsor-Essex Public Health Unit: 226-773-2200 (www.wevax.ca)



STEP 4: WHILE ON THE PHONE – ESSENTIAL CAREGIVER

Be sure to identify **ONE** primary essential caregiver who will also qualify for a vaccine appointment with you. Have their name, birth date, and phone number available before you call. Their second vaccination visit will be booked per Ministry of Health guidelines.

STEP 5: SECOND DOSE OF VACCINE

Your **SECOND** vaccination visit will be booked based on direction from your Care Team.



STEP 6: AFTER YOU ARE VACCINATED

Please remember: if you are on treatment that weakens your immune system, you may not make a full antibody response. All patients (and their essential caregivers) should still follow Public Health Guidance to avoid exposure (wear masks, continue physical distancing).

If you have a fever post-vaccine, ensure to follow your **Fever Protocol** as outlined in your chemotherapy handouts. If you have any questions on your Fever Protocol, call your Care Team at 519-253-5253.



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The Erie St. Clair Regional Cancer Program recommends that most cancer patients should be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. If you have concerns about the vaccine, you should discuss them with your Care Team.

*** If you have ever experienced an allergic reaction, speak with your Care Team before receiving the vaccine.**

When is the right time for you to get your vaccine?
<p>Chemotherapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> You are receiving oral cancer therapy. You can receive the vaccine any time it is offered to you. <input type="checkbox"/> You are taking Lenalidomide/Pomalidomide for myeloma. Get the vaccine during the week you are off therapy and avoid taking steroid medication (prednisone or dexamethasone) for a few days before and after the vaccine. <input type="checkbox"/> You are on maintenance Lenalidomide. You can get the vaccine at any time, or hold your medication for a few days before and after the vaccine. <input type="checkbox"/> You are scheduled to start your first chemotherapy treatment. You should get your first dose of the vaccine at least 2 weeks before. If you have any questions, speak to your Care Team. <input type="checkbox"/> You are already receiving chemotherapy. Your response to the vaccine may be reduced. The best time to receive the vaccine is a few days before starting a cycle of chemotherapy.
<p>Immunotherapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> You are receiving immunotherapy (e.g. Nivolumab/Pembrolizumab). You can receive the vaccine at any time once it is offered to you. <input type="checkbox"/> You are on maintenance Rituximab. The best response to the vaccine may be seen 3 months after you stop Rituximab. If you have any questions, speak to your Care Team.
<p>Stem Cell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> You have had a stem cell transplant or CAR-T therapy. You should get the vaccine as long as you are at least 3 months post-transplant or post-CAR-T therapy.
<p>Radiation Therapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> You are receiving radiation. You can receive the vaccine at any time once it is offered to you.
<p>Not Currently Receiving Chemotherapy or Immunotherapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> You can receive the vaccine at any time once it is offered to you.

If you or the vaccine administrator has questions about your vaccination, call the Cancer Program: **519-253-5253 between 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM** Monday to Friday and ask to speak with your Care Team.

At your next visit to the Cancer Centre, please let your Care Team know that you have had your vaccine.

IT IS SAFE FOR YOU TO RECEIVE WHICHEVER COVID-19 VACCINE THAT IS OFFERED TO YOU.