

August 16, 2021

## **COVID-19 Vaccine: Updated Age Eligibility Criteria for Children**

Effective August 16, 2021, the updated COVID-19 vaccine eligibility criteria is as follows:

- Individuals born on or before December 31, 2009 are eligible to receive two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Prior to this change coming into effect on August 16<sup>th</sup>, the eligibility criteria was based on the age at the time of vaccination (i.e., children had to be 12 years of age or older to be immunized).

This update to the eligibility criteria is consistent with several other Canadian jurisdictions and with Manitoba's routine approach to school-based immunizations.

At this time, the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine continues to be the only Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine indicated for use in children aged 12 years and older.

Factsheets and Clinical Practice Guidelines will be updated to reflect this change and posted at: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/resources.html> and <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/healthcare-professionals.html>.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility/clinic.

Sincerely,

*"Original signed by"*

Joss Reimer, MD FRCPC MPH  
Medical Lead, Vaccine Implementation Task Force