



November 22, 2021

Parents/Guardians,

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is working with your school division to arrange for the administration of a pediatric dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to students aged five to 11 years beginning in late November. (Those born in 2009 and earlier continue to be eligible as well.) The delivery plan will also include participating pharmacies and SHA clinics. Providing immunization to students is consistent with new national recommendations and authorization by Health Canada. The COVID-19 vaccine is voluntary.

Children are at lower risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19. However, to minimize the spread of COVID-19 it is important to immunize as many eligible children safely and as quickly as possible.

Pfizer is currently the only brand of pediatric COVID-19 vaccine that is approved by Health Canada. The COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11 years old is a slightly different formulation/dosage than the vaccine for those 12 years and older. Clinical trials indicated no safety concerns among children five to 11 years of age. The studies also showed that expected vaccine side effects (such as soreness at the injection site and muscle aches) were well tolerated and resolved in 2-3 days.

Children five to 11 years old have very good immune responses when they receive 2 doses as recommended. In fact, the vaccine was about 90.7% effective in preventing symptomatic COVID-19 among children participating in the clinical trials, and there were no serious adverse events related to the vaccine.

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Additional information, including common questions as well as a French version of this package, is also available on