



November 3, 2021

To: Personal Care Home Licensees

Dear Personal Care Home Licensees:

**Re: Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination for Family and Visitors of Personal Care Homes**

Effective November 8, 2021, the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) will begin requiring proof of full COVID-19 vaccination to enter all SHA facilities including affiliated Long Term Care (LTC) homes. This includes family and visitors. This aligns with both the SHA's Proof of Vaccination policy and the provincial proof of vaccination requirement contained in the Saskatchewan Public Health Order for non-essential businesses and events.

Through this letter, I am directing that, effective November 8, 2021, personal care homes must also require proof of full COVID-19 vaccination for all family and visitors who enter the personal care home. We are collectively committed to safe family presence. Many safety enhancements have been put in place during the pandemic, including, masking and screening. Proof of vaccination for family and visitors is an additional layer of protection. Proof of vaccination requires all family and visitors to either provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test that has been performed by an approved provider within the last 72 hours.

There are several acceptable forms of proof of vaccination including:

- QR Code on a mobile phone (screenshot from MySaskHealthRecord or SK Vax Wallet app);
- QR code printed from MySaskHealthRecord;
- COVID-19 vaccine certificate printed from MySaskHealthRecord;
- Wallet cards received at time of immunization (Saskatchewan Health Authority or Indigenous Services Canada);
- Proof (electronic or in writing) issued by another province, territory or government.

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Family and visitors who choose not to show proof of vaccination, **must demonstrate a negative PCR test or rapid antigen test performed by an approved provider within the past 72 hours.** Point of care antigen tests (at home tests) will not be considered proof of a negative test. Testing is the responsibility of family and visitors. Information on approved testing providers is available on the Government of Saskatchewan website.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/testing-information/where#labs-offering-testing-services>

We recognize that there may be situations where proof of vaccination or a negative test will not be feasible. These situations would be extremely rare and typically only in relation to end of life or other urgent circumstances. It is my expectation that personal care homes exercise extreme caution in granting any exceptions and that you develop a policy that outlines the limited circumstances under which this would be considered acceptable.

Thank you for your continued due diligence as we work together to protect our citizens.

Sincerely,



Max Hendricks  
Deputy Minister of Health

cc: Scott Livingstone, Chief Executive Officer, Saskatchewan Health Authority  
Mike Northcott, Chief Human Resources Officer, Saskatchewan Health Authority  
Rebecca Carter, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Billie-Jo Morrissette, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Dr. Saqib Shahab, Chief Medical Health Officer  
Brad Havervold, Executive Director, Community Care, Health  
Melissa Kimens, Executive Director, COVID-19 Response Unit, Health