

<p align="center">COVID-19 Immunization and Management – Third Party Vendors which includes Vendors, Service Providers, Contractors, sub-contractors, community partners and representatives</p>	<p align="center">####</p>
<p>Approval Date: September 07, 2021 Effective Date: September 07, 2021 Authorizing Committee: Senior Leadership Team</p>	

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline Joseph Brant Hospital’s (JBH) approach to mandatory COVID-19 vaccine administration and the requirements for third party vendors, service providers, contractors, sub-contractors and community partners to be fully vaccinated by no later than November 01, 2021. Mandatory participation in COVID-19 vaccination programs reduces the transmission of COVID-19 and decreases the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks.

2.0 Scope

That provincial direction (Chief Medical Officer of Health [CMOH] Directive #6) is followed for all third party vendors, service providers, contractors, sub-contractors or community partners who are vaccinated or designated as unvaccinated.

3.0 Policy

- 3.1 JBH is committed to maintaining a safe work environment to protect all third party vendors and service providers, contractors, sub-contractors or community partners from the risk of infection from, and complications associated with, COVID-19. Every effort shall be taken to reduce the risk of acquiring and/or transmitting vaccine-preventable diseases.
- 3.2 Vaccination is of critical importance in preventing or mitigating, the risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19 infection and its related complications.
- 3.3 JBH is committed to support a workplace whereby all of its third party vendors, service providers, contractors, sub-contractors or community partners will ensure that those they schedule to work at JBH are fully vaccinated.
- 3.4 JBH expects that third party vendors, service providers, contractors, sub-contractors or community partners will promote the vaccination and informed decision-making, and support a rational approach to achieve full compliance with JBH Policy.
- 3.5 Effective September 07, 2021, JBH expects all third party vendors, service providers, contractors , sub-contractors or community partners and their representatives to be vaccinated and/or in the process of obtaining fully vaccinated status in accordance with Public Health Ontario. The third party vendor, service provider, contractor or sub-contractor will be expected to attest to the fully vaccinated status of their representatives by November 01, 2021.
- 3.6 The third party vendor, service provider, contractor or sub-contractor not in compliance with proof of full vaccination status as outlined in Section 5 of this policy,

- on or before November 01, 2021, are subject to the compliance provisions outlined under Section 7 of this policy.
- 3.7 Third party vendors, service providers, contractors or sub-contractors who cannot provide an attestation that those assigned to JBH are fully vaccinated, engaged in active testing, or have an approved exemption are expected to perform COVID-19 testing through their organization in accordance with Directive #6 and JBH standard.
 - 3.8 JBH will comply with the mandatory direction outlined in Chief Medical Officer of Health [CMOH] Directive #6.

4.0 Responsibilities

- 4.1 JBH President and CEO shall ensure that the COVID-19 Immunization and Management policy is developed and implemented through the Senior Leadership Team, in alignment with CMOH Directive #6.
- 4.2 The third party vendor, service provider, contractor, sub-contractor or community partner will be responsible to implement and monitor this policy as directed by JBH and attest to its compliance.
- 4.3 JBH will:
 - 4.3.1 Maintain record of attestations provided by vendor.
 - 4.3.2 Manage and follow up of the exposure or acute illness related to COVID-19 in accordance with the Ministry of Health (MOH) management of cases and contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario.
- 4.4 All JBH Third party vendors, service providers, contractors, sub-contractors and community partners
 - 4.4.1 Are required to comply with this policy.

5.0 Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccine Program

It is important to protect the health and well-being of JBH's patients, employees, credentialed staff, learners, volunteers and third party vendors where there is evidence of a risk that can be mitigated. The CMOH has directed JBH to develop, implement and ensure compliance with a COVID-19 vaccination policy.

- 5.1 To facilitate this policy the third party vendor, service provider, contractor, sub-contractor or community partner will be required to attest to JBH:
 - 5.1.1 That representatives are fully vaccinated, including any boosters against COVID-19 as may be approved by the Public Health Ontario.
 - 5.1.2 JBH will be consulted in the event a third party vendor, service provider, contractor, sub-contractor or community partner is seeking an accommodation to work on the JBH premises.
 - 5.1.3 The tested status of any third party vendor, service provider, contractor, sub-contractor or community partner representative is in the process of full vaccination.
 - 5.1.4 Any third party vendor that declines COVID-19 vaccination. are subject to the compliance provisions outlined under Section 7 of this policy.
- 5.2 To be considered fully immunized, the participating individual must be >14 days post receipt of their second dose, and be up-to-date with any additional boosters as directed by Public Health Ontario.

5.3 Evidence of vaccine status is not required to be submitted to JBH, as the expectation is that the third party vendor, service provider, contractor, sub-contractor or community partner will maintain the record and provide an attestation to JBH.

5.4 Should an immunization “passport” or “certificate program” be introduced in the Province of Ontario it is understood that JBH will require proof of such passport or certificate program.

6.0 COVID-19 Educational Programming

6.1 If any organization expresses interest in receiving a copy of the JBH learning module it will be provided. The learning module is aligned to Directive #6.

7.0 Policy Non-compliance

In accordance with this JBH policy, third party vendors, service providers, contractors, sub-contractors or community partners that are not able to comply with this policy may result in these vendors becoming inactive and/or released from opportunities at JBH.

8.0 Definitions

Confirmed Case: a person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection.

COVID-19: COVID-19 is an acute respiratory illness caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). It may be characterized by fever, cough, shortness of breath, and several other symptoms. Asymptomatic infection is also possible. The risk of severe disease increases with age but is not limited to the elderly and is elevated in those with underlying medical conditions.

Fully Vaccinated: an individual who is ≥ 14 days out from receiving two doses and/or booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, approved by Health Canada and/or Public Health Ontario.

Immunization: process of protecting against vaccine preventable diseases by administration of an antigen. This induces an immune response to prevent infection from that infectious disease.

Partially Vaccinated: an individual who has received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, approved by Health Canada OR is < 14 days out from receiving their second dose.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): items worn to provide a barrier to help prevent potential exposure to infectious disease. These items can include gloves, gowns, surgical masks, visor, face shields, goggles, respirators, etc. Infection Prevention and Control [IPAC] provides organizational direction concerning required PPE, in alignment with provincial directives.

Third party “Vendors:” includes Vendors, Service Providers, Contractors and their sub-contractors and representatives.

Designated Unvaccinated: An individual, who has not received any doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, approved by Health Canada or Public Health Ontario.

9.0 Confidentiality Statement

JBH is required, pursuant to CMOH Directive #6 for Public Hospitals within the meaning of the *Public Hospitals Act, 1990* to report statistical information to the CMOH or the MOH. No identifying information will be provided to the MOH in relation to this policy; all statistical information will be provided in aggregate form.

10.0 Appendices

N/A

11.0 References

- 1.1 CMOH Directive #6
- 1.2 MOH Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario