

MEMO

Date: October 28, 2021

To: External partners

From: Ken Klassen, Regional Lead – Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer

CC: Kristy Radke, Director – Support Services

Subject: **COVID-19 Vaccination Status – External Partners**

Effective October 18, 2021, in compliance with the Public Health Order, dated Sept. 24, 2021 (the “Public Health Order”), employees of external partners, site partners, suppliers, vendors, contractors, company representatives (“supplier representatives”) who will have direct contact with patients/residents, including individuals who will be entering any patient/resident care areas of health-care facilities operated by Southern Health-Santé Sud (“SH-SS”), must provide proof of vaccination for COVID-19 OR provide a negative COVID-19 test result, verified by their employer, from a test taken within 48 hours of entering a health-care facility.

As employers of the supplier representatives, you must check your employees’ vaccination status prior to visiting our health-care facility. Please be aware that SH-SS assumes no responsibility or liability for your employee’s verification of vaccination status, validation of proof, or the costs of a rapid test incurred by your employee.

If you are unsure whether your employees qualify as direct care worker working in direct patient/resident care areas at our health-care facilities, please contact us.

For your reference, the following is some information from the Public Health Order:

Health Care Personnel

The Public Health Order designates certain individuals as being subject to its requirements. For health care and related sectors, it applies to individuals who have direct contact with patients/residents, and direct and ongoing or prolonged contact with vulnerable people and children. This includes:

- All direct care workers employed to work in areas with direct contact with patients/residents, including physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, health care aides, cleaning staff, support services staff as well as volunteers.
- SH-SS takes the position that this definition includes all supplier representatives contracted to work in patient care areas.

Proof of vaccination

Proof of vaccination means providing documentation that confirms a person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Fully vaccinated individuals are those who have received both doses (any combination) of an approved two dose COVID-19 vaccine (AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna), OR a single dose of an approved single dose COVID-19 vaccine (Janssen/Johnson & Johnson) with more than 14 days having passed since the second dose (or approved sole dose) was received.

Screening requirement prior to entry continues to apply

Notwithstanding compliance with the Public Health Order, all supplier representatives must be asymptomatic, and can either pass the [screening questions](#) prior to entry. .

All supplier representatives must also wear a medical mask while in the facility, which will be provided prior to entry, and must always maintain physical distancing. Individuals should only enter site name where screening and masks which are the following designated entrances:

Note: Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) will continue to be provided for supplier representatives required to be present in a location where additional PPE is required/recommended.