Patients:

As of Friday, March 26th and again today on March 30th, the criteria to be able to pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine has expanded, and you might be eligible!

If you are in the highest-risk or high-risk categories, you can now pre-register online at: http://regionofwaterloo.ca/Vaccine/PreReg

Highest-risk:

- organ transplant recipients,
- stem cell transplant recipients,
- people with neurologic diseases in which respiratory function may be compromised (e.g., motor neuron disease, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis),
- hematologic malignancy (blood cancer) diagnosed < 1 year,
- severe kidney disease (eGFR < 30)

High-risk:

- obesity (BMI > 40),
- immunosuppressive treatments (e.g., chemotherapy, immunity-weakening medications)
- intellectual/developmental disabilities (e.g., Down Syndrome)

Additionally, <u>one essential caregiver per patient in the highest-risk and high-risk categories is also eligible</u> for a vaccination appointment. The caregiver must book their own appointment by completing a separate pre-registration. No proof is required for this.

As of March 30th, adults in the 60-69 age group and three more priority groups are eligible to pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine in Waterloo Region. The Province has identified these groups as next in order of priority for the Phase Two rollout of the vaccine. View details here: https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/Modules/News/ to see if you qualify.

Please do not call us to book the appointment for you. The fastest way to receive an appointment is to choose either email or text as preferred contact options when pre-registering. If you do not have email or text, consider asking a loved one to book for you. If you have no options for email or text, you can call us for assistance in pre-registering. We can only do this for a limited number of patients. We appreciate your understanding.

Please consider booking at our site! When you receive your Invitation to Register, you will get to choose the time and location for your vaccine. We are listed as the **Health Sciences Campus**, or **Pharmacy Building** at King and Victoria St. We love to see familiar faces! If you live in Wellesley, we have a site on Nafziger Road where you can choose to book, called **Wellesley** in the booking menu.

Things to Remember:

• You will be asked to "attest" that you meet eligibility criteria. No proof will be required. No documentation or notes are required from our office.

- Pre-registration does not mean you will be contacted to book an appointment immediately, instead the Region will contact you when it is your turn. You will not receive a confirmation email but rest assured, you will be contacted.
- Please ensure you check your Junk/SPAM folder in your email regularly if you have pre-registered online.

If you have already received your vaccine, please disregard this email and visit <u>our website</u> to update your records with our office.

As we learn more, we will provide you with the latest information. Until then, keep well and keep safe.

Kind Regards,

The Centre for Family Medicine