Using your EMR for outreach to patients for the COVID Vaccine

This guide will cover three options to identify patients who may be eligible for a COVID vaccine. Depending on the degree of data standardization used within your EMR you may have more or less options available to you.

Option 1: Produce a panel list and manually review.

Generating a list of patients on your panel with a few key demographics can be accomplished in all of the major EMR products. Specific guidance on creating queries for a panel list can be found [here](https://actt.albertadoctors.org/EMR/Pages/default.aspx).

Reviewing and sorting this list of patients by age category can assist in targeting messages in alignment with [Alberta’s COVID Vaccine Distribution Plan](https://www.alberta.ca/covid19-vaccine.aspx).

Using physician or team recall about patients on the panel list individuals with conditions that place the patient at higher risk (phase 2B) can be marked on the panel list.

Clinic staff can conduct outreach to identified patients, using messaging or telephone to communicate their eligibility for the vaccine.

Option 2: CPCSSN sites

Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network sites may have access to new reports to support identification of patients eligible for vaccination.

Option 3: Advanced EMR reporting

If your practice has developed strong panel processes and structures clinical conditions, diagnosis and/or pharmaceuticals you may be able to generate targeted queries to support identifying patients eligible for COVID vaccine. [Alberta’s COVID Vaccine Distribution Plan](https://www.alberta.ca/covid19-vaccine.aspx) uses age, place of residence, occupation, ethnicity, and clinical conditions to prioritize eligibility. Patients with high-risk conditions are eligible for vaccination in phase 2B, a detailed list of eligible conditions are listed [here.](https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid19-vaccine-phase-2B-eligibility-fact-sheet.pdf)

Note: a physician’s note is not required for patients with high-risk conditions.

When contacting patients about COVID vaccines it is recommended that the offer and response are documented in the EMR. Using a standardized field to record (COVID Vaccine Offered, Declined, Received) will support future panel searches.