

How to Avoid Moderna Vaccine Wastage

Update to York Region health care providers as of July 26, 2021

Recently, primary care providers have been returning unused Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to York Region Public Health. These vaccine vials are often thawed (unfrozen), which only permits a limited time to use the vaccine before it is considered spoiled. Please see below for some tips on returning Moderna vaccines to avoid potential wastage.

Tips for avoiding Moderna COVID-19 vaccine wastage:

- When Moderna vaccine is thawed, it must be used within 30 days. If it appears the thawed vaccine will be unused, let Public Health know as early as possible. With more time available, there is more opportunity for the vaccine supplies to be relocated and administered
- Keep a close eye on your vaccine supplies and the throughput of your office and/or clinics. Anticipating future needs can help avoid potential wastage. Like other publicly-funded vaccines, do not order more than a one-month supply
- If there is a very limited time left until expiry, it is less likely that the vaccine will be used, especially as the proportion of people vaccinated increases and demand decreases
- If a COVID-19 vaccine expires after being distributed to a primary care office, it is recorded as wastage by that office even when returned to public health

York Region Public Health can help you manage your COVID-19 vaccine supply and distribution. Contact us immediately if you will not administer the thawed COVID-19 vaccines in your inventory.

Contact York Region Public Health

You can reach York Region Public Health's Vaccine Inventory team by calling 1-877-464-9675 ext. 50174 or by email at covid19vaccine@york.ca

