



Ontario Association of  
Medical Radiation Sciences

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Dear Members,

In response to concerns raised by our Ottawa-area colleagues, we have been in communication with Ottawa Public Health to have MRTs included in the Ottawa Public Health COVID-19 vaccine online pre-registration tool. This tool allows community healthcare professionals, such as those working in Independent Health Facilities (IHF) in the Ottawa-area to determine whether they are currently eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and to schedule a vaccination appointment. MRTs had been omitted from the list of eligible healthcare providers, which caused confusion among members as to whether they are eligible to receive the vaccine on a priority basis, as stated in the Ontario government's COVID-19 vaccination plan.

It appears that this problem was confined to the Ottawa Public Health website and that the online vaccine registration portals on the websites of other Ontario public health units do not have this problem. We have confirmed with Ottawa Public Health that MRTs have been eligible to schedule vaccine appointments using this tool, and we are pleased to report that MRTs are now included on the list of healthcare providers listed on the "priority population eligibility" list on the Ottawa Public Health website. Sonographers are included under the broader heading of "MRT" or "Medical Radiation Technologists," based on the language used in the Ontario legislation and regulations. We thank our Ottawa-area members for bringing this problem to our attention, and we have thanked Ottawa Public Health for working to update its website and pre-registration tool to correct this omission.

The Ontario government continues to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine across the province, in accordance with its distribution plan, and MRTs and Sonographers working in most, if not all, healthcare settings should now be eligible to schedule a vaccination appointment. Please note that the distribution schedule for different healthcare settings may vary from health unit to health unit based on the availability of the vaccine supply and the current case count in specific regions. [We encourage all MRTs and Sonographers who have not already been vaccinated to register for a vaccine appointment on the website of their public health unit.](#) We also encourage members to contact us if they encounter any difficulties accessing the vaccine, or if they have any questions about the Ontario government's vaccine distribution plan and timelines.

We will be sure to keep you all updated as the vaccine continues to roll out across the province. Thank you all again for your hard work on the frontlines of this pandemic, and for your ongoing commitment to your patients' health and safety.

Sincerely,

Searle Schonewille  
Director, Professional Services  
OAMRS