

### **CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:**

BCEHS will provide Community Paramedics (CP) to health Authorities in accordance with the requirements established by the SARS CoV2 – EMA PHO March 18, 2021. for homebound vaccination staffing. This order requires the Health Authority to provide virtual clinical supervision to the Community Paramedic by a registered Health professional (MD, RN, NP, LPN, RPN). Only CP who have completed mandatory COVID 19 mandatory education and been signed off by the Health Authority will participate in this initiative.

As a requirement for requesting a CP to perform a homebased COVID vaccination, Health Authority representatives must determine the eligibility of the patient for COVID vaccination for either first or second vaccine dose. Then, for each address and identifying each patient at that address, notify BCEHS on the Urgent Primary Services Request Form.

The normal scope of practice of Community Paramedics (licence levels of either Primary Care Paramedic or Advanced Care Paramedic) includes performing IMs and anaphylaxis monitoring and treatment. The required clinical supervision is limited to supporting clinical decisions to vaccinate. Following the CP patient pre-vaccination assessment, if the Paramedic identifies a health condition that brings eligibility for vaccination into question, the CP must contact the Supervisor by phone to review the case prior to proceeding to meet the Order requirements. The Supervisor may elect to talk directly with the patient. Second dose requests should require the least supervision.

It should be noted CPs will continue to provide ongoing 911 support except for the 30 minutes after vaccine administration. At any other time, they may be pulled to respond to emergency calls. Supervisor coverage should be available over a minimum of a 6-hour period with potential back up as required to deal with this possible variation in scheduled workflow.

### **RISK AND SAFETY**

While completing this health authority work, the CP remains under the authority of BCEHS as a worker and must meet all BCEHS required health and safety policies and practices for COVID protection, lone responder/worker safety and emergency mandates. However, if lone responder/worker safety is an issue, the Health Authority must schedule the second worker.

**ROLE OBJECTIVE:** To provide the virtual clinical supervision for COVID vaccination eligibility decisions when requested by BCEHS Community Paramedics as required under the PHO Orders for EMA March 18 until repealed or Dec 2021.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The designated virtual Clinical Supervisor will:

1. **Provide a written copy of the Supervisor (s) name and contact information** to the CP on arrival to collect supplies.  
(The CP must have this information if they are to legally accept the assignment. Without a designated supervisor the home vaccination can not be provided by the Community Paramedic)
2. The Supervisor must be available by phone at the identified contact number for the anticipated duration of the Paramedic shift (6 hours) or provide an alternate. Paramedics may be asked to inform the supervisor of the end of their responsibilities or it will be assumed to end at the end of that patient visit portion of the work.
3. **If called, the clinical Supervisor will:**
  - a. Review the patient assessment with the CP. May or may not conduct a patient phone assessment to confirm the review any relative contraindications to vaccination
  - b. Advise the CP of the next most appropriate immunizations actions.
4. **In the event of an adverse reaction**, as soon as safely possible, the CP will notify the supervisor of the patient status and actions taken. CPs also always have access to the virtual medical support through the BCEHS Emergency Physician Online Support. (EPOS)
5. Should the supervisor wish to review a case, CPs will document in IMMs BC and in the BCEHS E-PCR.

6. CPs will return all residual supplies to the collection location. At this time, if a meeting is desired, this would be the appropriate time please let the paramedic know in the additional instructions. As CPs will be returning to other delegated work at the end of this response.
  
7. If unable to connect with the CP for any reason, please call 604-829-4046 the CP Coordinator will be able to connect with the CP through our dispatchers and facilitate the contact.

**SUPPORTING REFERENCES**

1. PHO Order Sars Cov2 EMA Mar 18, 2021
2. BCEHS SOP (*Pending*) will be distributed with the final briefing note as well.
3. Health Authority Instructions for pre-scheduling a CP using the Urgent Primary Care Services Form for Homebound COVID vaccination. (*in process – will be on the website*)

**BCEHS - COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC COVID VACCINATION VIRTUAL SUPERVISOR COVERAGE FORM**

Date		
Supervisor Name	Contact Number	Hours of Coverage
Alternate Supervisor Name	Contact Number	Hour of Coverage
Additional Instructions		