

Ian Gemmill, the [Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit's](#) acting medical officer of health.

“We know that people have been anxiously awaiting their turn to be vaccinated and I want to assure them that their turn is coming. We just all need to be patient as we receive more vaccine.”

This week, HKPR is expecting to get more than 4,500 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and another 1,700 Moderna doses, public health confirmed Monday, Feb. 22.

In other words, the flood gates haven't opened yet, but “supply is improving.”

Both [Northumberland Hills Hospital](#) and [Ross Memorial Hospital](#) now have the ultra-cold freezer capability for the Pfizer vaccine. An additional Pfizer shipment is also anticipated next week (quantity unknown at press deadline.)

“With more COVID-19 vaccine shipments expected this week, the local public health agency will be initiating vaccination clinics for the next group to be completed under the provincial vaccine distribution plan,” reads a recent release.

The latest Moderna shipment is for area residents of long-term care and high-risk retirement homes who still need second doses. Earlier, HKPR administered 1,700 first doses to these area residents – under just LTC, about 2,000-plus staff still need first doses.

Public health has confirmed the Pfizer shipment will be used for staff and essential caregivers of long-term care and retirement homes, as well as priority health-care workers in area hospitals.

“Persons receiving home and community care, as well as other members of the community who are 80 years of age and older are scheduled to be vaccinated next, possibly beginning in March,” said public health Monday.

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[Northumberland hospital team ready to receive area's first shipment of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine](#)