

oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin

February 22, 2021

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM

What's coming up next ...

This week: Immunization clinics for staff and medical staff who provide direct patient or client care

With an increasing supply of vaccine being delivered to B.C. each week, we are now able to start vaccinating more priority groups. This week, we are prioritizing second doses of COVID-19 vaccine for staff and medical staff who received their first dose between Tuesday, Dec. 15 and Friday, Jan. 15. We are also offering first doses to acute staff and medical staff who provide direct patient or client care, and starting tomorrow, to staff and medical staff who work in the community, including Home Support and Home Health, and at Urgent Primary Care Centres and at our Test Collection Sites.

We are also working to finish providing second doses to staff and residents of long-term care homes. Those who received their first dose during Week 6 of our campaign (Jan. 11-15) will be able to get their second doses at their work site or at a community clinic. For acute staff and medical staff who provide direct patient care, we will again offer clinics in Vancouver, the North Shore, and Richmond for both first and second doses. Please watch for communication from your manager, supervisor or medical department head.

Only staff and medical staff who received their first dose on or before Jan. 15 will receive their second dose at this time. If you are coming for your second dose, please bring your paper record of immunization to the clinic. Those who don't bring it will have their eligibility confirmed through the provincial immunization database which includes a record of all COVID-19 vaccinations given, but this may result in a longer wait. Those who received their first dose after Jan. 15 will be notified when it's their turn to receive their second dose.

Important reminder: [Provincial Health Officer \(PHO\) orders](#) and Public Health guidelines, including strict adherence to personal protective equipment use, remain in place for everyone, even if you have received the vaccine.

To date, 218,726 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in B.C., 55,057 of which are second doses. Immunization data is available on the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) [COVID-19 dashboard](#).

For the most up-to-date information on the vaccination rollout, please visit our [VCH intranet site](#).

[Vaccination program updates and more →](#)

oneVCH COVID-19 VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

Join us for the next oneVCH COVID-19 town hall on March 4!

You are invited to participate in a virtual town hall on **Thursday, March 4 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

To join the virtual town hall, please click on the link below:

[VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH COVID-19 TOWN HALL UPDATE – MARCH 4 2021 11:00 AM WEBCAST](#)

MEDICAL STAFF COVID-19 (PHYSICIANS, MIDWIVES, NURSE PRACTITIONERS & DENTISTS)

Q&A: Effectiveness of the AstraZeneca vaccine

Q: Given AstraZeneca data, will it be used in acute care?

A: We anticipate AstraZeneca will be approved for use in Canada.

There are some interesting data on AstraZeneca. This is one of the first vaccines where they looked at a longer interval between the first and second dose and they actually found a better booster response with this longer interval. This confirms the Public Health message that a longer interval between the first and second dose is preferable for a booster response.

Those countries that are implementing AstraZeneca are giving a longer interval between the first and second dose. Even though the Phase 3 trial data for AstraZeneca shows its effectiveness in preventing symptomatic COVID was about 70%, as compared to 95% with the Pfizer and Modern Phase 3 trials, it's still a very effective vaccine.

If we get a high enough vaccination of our population with all available vaccines, we anticipate we will create herd immunity that will prevent transmission in the population. It's more about getting enough people vaccinated than of any particular vaccine. If we look at the benefits of Pfizer and Moderna, a single dose in long-term care has basically stopped transmission.

Medical Staff Q&A were generated during the Feb. 16 Medical Staff Forum. The audio-visual recording of the previous forums, as well as the full transcripts and a running list of Q&A will be available shortly on the [intranet site](#).

UPDATE ON NEW AND EXISTING COVID-19 CASES (as of February 22, 2021)

- There were 1,428 new cases of COVID-19 over the last three days (502 on Feb. 20, 475 on Feb. 21 and 449 on Feb. 22) for a total of 77,263 cases in the province.
- Active cases: 4,560
 - Vancouver Coastal Health: 358 new cases
 - Fraser: 805 new cases
 - Interior Health: 67 new cases
 - Island Health: 99 new cases
 - Northern Health: 99 new cases
 - People who normally reside outside of Canada: 0 new cases
- 223 hospitalized
- 63 currently admitted to ICU
- 71,313 recovered
- 8 new deaths and 1,335 confirmed deaths in total

[Click here to see more updates on the BC COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

Incident and prevalent cases of COVID-19 in hospital and critical care across VCH/PHC

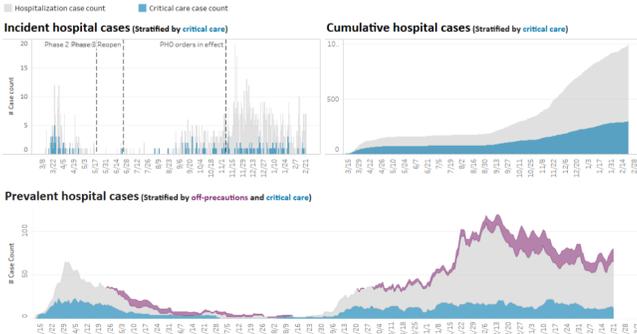
Reporting from 8/12/2020 to midnight of 2/21/2021

	New Cases (Since Yesterday)	Today's Total Cases	Cumulative Cases
Hospitalized Patients	7 New hospitalized cases	80 Total hospitalized cases	990 Cumulative total hospitalized cases
Critical Care Patients	0 New critical care cases	14 Total critical care cases	294 Cumulative total critical care cases
Critical Care Patients on Ventilator	0 New ventilation cases	13 Total ventilation cases	150 Cumulative total ventilation cases
Discharged / Off COVID Precautions Patients	4 Discharged case(s) from yesterday	15 Current hospitalized off COVID precautions cases	777 Cumulative total discharged cases
Readmission		4 Current hospitalized readmitted cases	55 Cumulative readmitted cases
Death		1 Death(s) from yesterday	137 Cumulative total deaths

Note: 1) Beginning February 22, 2021, the attached report will be validated on Mondays and Thursdays. During the rest of the week, the accuracy of this report will rely on data availability on the Decision Support Data Warehouse. 2) The patient hospitalization status and location is based on their midnight status and may be subject to change due to data refresh. 3) Patient case attributed using earliest collection date. Patient case attributed before collection case attributed using admission date if collection date was before patient admission. 4) Cumulative cases refer to number of distinct patients. 5) Exclusions: 1) Additional COVID patients discharged before March 12, 2020. 2) LOS > 24 hrs. 6) Dashboard only includes COVID-19 patients who were hospitalized within 30 days of first result notification date. Data Source: 1) Quality Patient and Safety 2) Census Database from Decision Support

Incident and prevalent cases of COVID-19 in hospital and critical care across VCH/PHC

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COVID-19 DATA

Long-term care, assisted living and independent living sites

COVID-19 data is available on the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website, including outbreak and case information. The [February 18, 2021 weekly COVID-19 long-term care outbreak report](#) is also available on the website.

The website also includes situation reports, maps of cases in the province and more.

[Click here to go to the BCCDC site →](#)

KEY LINKS

- [Text Alerts: Physician sign up keyword: COVID19](#)
- [Text Alerts: Staff sign up keyword: ALERT](#)
- [Staff supports during COVID-19](#)
- [Medical staff resources during COVID-19](#)

REMINDER ABOUT MEDIA

If you receive a media inquiry, please contact our Public Affairs team immediately for support. Our media line is **604-202-2012** or email media@vch.ca.

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

Please [click here to submit questions or comments on our VCH COVID-19 intranet page](#).

KEY LINKS

- [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- [Wellness Together Canada: Mental Health and Substance Use Support](#)
- [COVID-19 Multilingual Resources](#)
- [Coping with COVID: Additional Employee Wellness/EFAP services](#)
- [VCH Virtual Health website](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) website](#): Staff resources on how to assess, test and treat patients and protect patients and staff.
- [Infection Prevention and Control Policy](#): Ministry of Health
- [VCH Regional Pandemic Outbreak Response Plan](#): VCH Communicable Disease Control website
- [VCH Intranet](#): COVID-19 updates

REGIONAL AND LOCAL EOC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

- [COVID-19 VCH-PHC Regional EOC](#)
- [COVID-19 Vancouver Acute EOC](#)
- [COVID-19 Vancouver Community EOC](#)
- [COVID-19 Coastal EOC](#)
- [COVID-19 Richmond EOC](#)
- [COVID-19 Providence Health Care \(PHC\) EOC](#)

The bulletins are distributed on Mondays and Thursdays. Past bulletins are available on the [COVID-19 section of our VCH staff intranet](#).

