

oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin

May 13, 2021

Register for dose 2

If you haven't already, you will need to register through the provincial system at www.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated.

This includes people who got dose 1:

- Before the provincial booking system launched on Apr. 6
- As a health-care worker before May 3
- As a priority frontline worker before May 3
- At a pharmacy
- In long-term care or assisted living
- At a community outreach clinic in Whistler or Squamish



COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM

Second doses for those who received first dose on or before Jan. 31

Following provincial and national recommendations, we are offering second doses of COVID-19 vaccines 16 weeks after the first dose. Next week, we will offer second doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for staff and medical staff who received their first dose on or before Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021. Ensure you are registered in the provincial booking system to be notified when it's time to book your appointment. You can also watch for information about health-care worker specific clinics in your Community of Care from your manager, director or department head.

Adults 18 years of age and older will be invited to book their first-dose appointments starting next week

Today, Health Minister Adrian Dix said that by the end of this upcoming weekend, the province will have started to send booking invitations to all adults in B.C. aged 18 and older. The following age groups will begin to see their invitations over the next few days:

- People aged 25 years and older (born in 1996 or earlier) – Friday, May 14 after 7 p.m.
- People aged 20 years and older (born in 2001 or earlier) – Saturday, May 15 after 7 p.m.
- People aged 18 years and older (born in 2003 or earlier) – Sunday, May 16 after 7 p.m.

To most efficient way to be alerted when one is eligible to book their first dose is to register online or by phone on the Get Vaccinated [provincial booking platform](#).

Province provides data on the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines

Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, provided data today on the number of COVID-positive cases in people who had received either one or both doses of the vaccine. Data from B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) shows that those who were unvaccinated or had received the first dose less than 21 days prior to testing positive accounted for 98.2 per cent of all cases. Our bodies require two to three weeks to develop antibodies after receiving the vaccine. Those who had received the first dose more than 21 days prior to testing positive for COVID-19 accounted for just 1.7 per cent of cases, and those who had received their second dose seven or more days prior to testing positive made up 0.2 per cent of cases. Additional data from the First Nations Health Authority, where a whole-of-community immunization approach was taken in many First Nations, supports these findings showing the real-world effectiveness of the vaccines in B.C.

QUESTION OF THE DAY

Q: With other provinces pausing the AstraZeneca vaccine again, will B.C. do the same?

A: Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry said today that B.C. will not be receiving additional supplies of the AstraZeneca vaccine in the near future. This is partly an effort to support other countries, such as India, that must provide access to vaccines to their much larger populations. B.C. is not pausing the use of this vaccine at this time, but the current supply will be reserved as second doses for those who already received the first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine. Dr. Henry said that the province is continuing to watch studies on offering an mRNA vaccine as a second dose after the first dose of AstraZeneca, and that this may be an option for individuals awaiting their second dose.

Questions? Check out our COVID-19 vaccine page for FAQs →

"I am writing this letter to appreciate the brilliant services of your team at the Kwantlen Polytechnic University vaccination clinic, especially your support staff member named Edmund. A few days back, I went to have my first vaccine shot and this guy was utterly amazing, introducing his name and explaining all the detailed information about the vaccine ... I would like to thank your organization for the excellent services. Looking forward for my second vaccine and keep the good work going."

- Richmond resident

MEDICAL STAFF (PHYSICIANS, MIDWIVES, NURSE PRACTITIONERS, DENTISTS)

Med staff forum on May 19: COVID-19 vaccine updates & efficacy

Date: Join us May 19, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for the virtual medical staff forum (physicians, midwives, nurse practitioners, dentists).

Topic: COVID-19 Vaccine Updates and Efficacy. Stay up to date on the latest vaccine updates from the experts, and hear from special guest Dr. Manish Sadarangani, Director, Vaccine Evaluation Centre, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute on the latest vaccine efficacy data.

Panelists: Dr. Ross Brown, Dr. Patty Daly, Vivian Eliopoulos, Dr. Chad Kim Sing (Host), Dr. Manish Sadarangani, and Dr. Titus Wong.

We want to hear from you! Submit questions in advance on the Zoom registration page, Slack, or email laurie.kilburn@vch.ca

REGISTER AT: <https://bit.ly/3xWZ85M>

See [VCH Medical Staff Intranet](#) and [Slack](#) for previous Medical staff forum recordings, transcripts, Q&A.

MEDICAL STAFF COVID-19 Q&A

Vaccine efficacy

Q: What are the efficacy and effectiveness of the Pfizer vaccine with the first dose? How is that for the second dose after four months?

A: The data we have on efficacy of Pfizer comes from the clinical trials. From the clinical trial data, we could infer that the efficacy of one dose is over 90 per cent. The second dose given at a 3 to 4-week interval brought the efficacy up to 95 per cent. The bulk of the benefit is from the first dose. The second dose only brings it up a touch. What we don't know is the duration of protection from either one or two doses.

What do we know about the efficacy of Pfizer given four months apart? We don't quite know the answer yet, and only time will tell. Based on vaccinology principles, when you give two doses further apart, you get greater benefit than when you give them really close together. We expect it to be as good as or better than what we saw in the trials.

See [here](#) for a summary of the data on which extended intervals are based.

Medical Staff Q&A were generated during the April 2021 medical staff forum.

The AV recording of these forums, as well as full transcripts and running lists of Q&A are available on the [Intranet site](#) and [Slack](#)

oneVCH COVID-19 VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

Missed today's town hall?

To watch the virtual town hall, please click the link below. Learn about second doses, nursing week, and more.

[VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH COVID-19 TOWN HALL UPDATE- M/W 13, 2021 11:00 AM WEBCAST](#)

Daily COVID-19 self-screening health checks

The health and safety of Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) staff and medical staff is a priority as we continue to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the most important measures we need to take to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the workplace to protect our colleagues, patients, residents and clients, is to stay at home if you are unwell.

Under the Order of the Provincial Health Officer, [Workplace and Post-Secondary Institution Safety – April 21, 2021](#), Section 2, 3, and 4, all VCH staff and medical staff are required to complete daily self-screening health checks before leaving for work.

Please check-in with yourself by following the [Daily COVID-19 Staff and Medical Staff Self-Screening Instruction sheet](#) to determine if you have any new or worsening symptoms.

If you are unwell, please stay home and do not come to work. Please let your supervisor know and report your absence to the [Absence Call Line](#). If you are symptomatic, please go to a [COVID-19 testing site](#) to get tested and follow the advice of testing site staff until your results become available.

If you come to work, you are indicating that you have completed the daily self-screening health check and are not exhibiting any symptoms.

Please continue to be vigilant in the workplace by practicing exceptional hand hygiene, adhering to [infection Prevention and Control](#) and personal protective equipment (PPE) guidelines, regularly cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces (e.g., work stations) and maintaining physical distance – even after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

Reminders for staff to do daily health checks will be posted at staff entryways and shared in the oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin. Unit leadership should also reinforce the requirement for daily self-screening health checks at staff meetings and huddles.

Thank you for doing your part to ensure the safety of everyone at VCH. If you have any questions, please contact EmployeeSafety@vch.ca

UPDATE ON NEW AND EXISTING COVID-19 CASES (as of May 13, 2021)

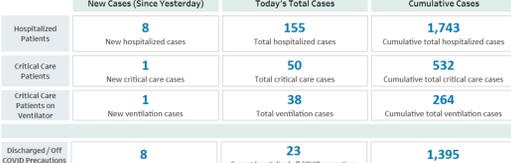
- Today, we are reporting 587 new cases, including one epi-linked case, for a total of 137,810 cases in British Columbia.
- Active cases: 5,691
 - Vancouver Coastal Health: 126 new cases
 - Fraser: 365 new cases
 - Interior Health: 60 new cases
 - Island Health: 21 new cases
 - Northern Health: 15 new cases
 - People who normally reside outside of Canada: none
- 413 hospitalized
- 141 currently admitted to ICU
- 130,310 people who tested positive have recovered
- 5 new deaths for a total of 1,632 confirmed deaths
- 2,335,513 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in B.C., 119,691 of which are second doses.

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

	New Cases (Since Yesterday)	Today's Total Cases	Cumulative Cases
Hospitalized Patients	8 New hospitalized cases	155 Total hospitalized cases	1,743 Cumulative total hospitalized cases
Critical Care Patients	1 New critical care cases	50 Total critical care cases	532 Cumulative total critical care cases
Critical Care Patients on Ventilator	1 New ventilation cases	38 Total ventilation cases	264 Cumulative total ventilation cases
Discharged / Off COVID Precautions Patients	8 (Discharged case(s) from yesterday)	23 Current hospitalized off COVID precautions cases	1,395 Cumulative total discharged cases
Readmission		6 Current hospitalized readmitted cases	81 Cumulative readmitted cases
Death		1 Death(s) from yesterday	199 Cumulative total deaths

Note:
1) Beginning April 22, 2021, the attached report will be updated 7 days a week. During the weekends, the accuracy of this report will rely on data availability in the Decision Support Data Warehouse and is subject to change.
2) The current hospitalized cases and readmission is based on their most recent status and may be subject to change due to data refresh.
3) Patient case attribution is based on patient location at the time of admission. See attribution using admission date before patient admission.
4) Cumulative cases refer to number of distinct patients.
5) Excludes COVID-19 cases that occurred before March 12, 2020, 11:00 PM.
6) Departmental cases include COVID-19 cases that were hospitalized within 21 days of their most notification date.
7) Includes data in missing part extending to most complete available report. The following week is expected in the following days to report.
8) Off-premise data is under-reporting numbers during the period of March - beginning of April 2021.

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



Prevalent hospital cases (stratified by off-precautions and critical care)



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COVID-19 DATA

COVID-19 data, including for long-term care, assisted living and independent living sites, is available on the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website, including outbreak and case information.

[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

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- [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](#)

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

[Please click here to submit questions or comments.](#)

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.

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

