

IMMSFORMATION

A newsletter for immunization providers

The BCCDC is located on the unceded, ancestral and traditional lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Səlilwataʔ (Tsleil-Waututh), and Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nations

BC Infant RSV Immunoprophylaxis Program Q&A

In collaboration with the BC Infant RSV Immunoprophylaxis Program (RSV program) run by BC Children's Hospital, the BCCDC developed the BC Infant Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Immunoprophylaxis Program Question and Answer (Q&A) Resource for Immunization Providers. This health care provider Q&A resource explains the BC RSV Program for the 2024-2025 season.



First Nations Health Authority Abrysvo™ Coverage

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) has announced that it will now provide reimbursement for Abrysvo™ vaccine. This coverage is effective immediately.

Coverage Details: First Nations Health Benefits will accept reimbursement requests for vaccinations with the Abrysvo™ vaccine administered on or after August 25, 2024. Coverage for the full cost of the vaccine applies to pregnant individuals who were **32 to 36 weeks'** gestation at the time of administration. To request reimbursement, clients must complete the FNHA Reimbursement Form.

Additional FNHA Resource: Protect your baby from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

UPDATE: COVID-19 Education

In late 2024, the BCCDC immunization program streamlined **COVID-19 vaccine education** and reduced the number of COVID-19 courses from six to two, including:

- BCCDC COVID-19 Immunization Competency Course **#24913 on the LearningHub** (previously BCCDC COVID-19 Immunization Competency Course for Nurses).
- BCCDC COVID-19 Vaccines Webinar Course **#31138 on the LearningHub**.

VEC Winter 2024 Newsletter

The **Vaccine Evaluation Center's (VEC)** Winter 2024 Newsletter includes the latest updates from some of their studies, showcases recent publications, and provides valuable immunization resources. Read their newsletter [here](#).

Child Immunization

Interactive Coverage Dashboard

A [new provincial interactive dashboard](#) on childhood immunization coverage was published on the BCCDC website in October 2024. This dashboard provides increased geographic granularity on childhood immunization coverage rates:

- 1) By Community Health Service Area of residence for age-based cohorts (i.e., 2-year-olds and 7-year-olds) on the “**Community-based**” tab.
- 2) By school for school-aged children (i.e., 7-year-olds, grade 6, grade 9) on the “**School-based**” tab.

The dashboard currently includes immunization coverage data up to the same time frame as that published in the [2023 immunization coverage reports](#) and will be updated annually, in alignment with the immunization coverage reports.



NEW: to ImmunizeBC

Vaccine Safety Pages Updated

The vaccine safety pages on [ImmunizeBC.ca](#) have undergone significant updates. In addition to new content, the pages have been rewritten and reformatted for easier navigation and improved accessibility. These updates provide clear, evidence-based information on vaccine development, approval, safety monitoring, side effects, ingredients, and the safety of multiple and combination vaccines.

EDI* & ReconciliACTION

The findings in this article titled “[An exploration of the role of trust and rapport in enhancing vaccine uptake among Anishinaabe in rural northern Ontario](#)” illustrate that decisions to vaccinate are influenced by various social, institutional, and ideological factors, as well as historical and contemporary relationships with government institutions and health care practitioners. In particular, Indigenous community members perceived their relationships with social services, health services, and educational institutions as coercive.

**EDI = Equity, Diversity, Inclusion*



BCCDC Resources

Informed Consent

New resources to support informed consent were developed in consultation with our provincial Informed Consent Working Group. These resources include:

HealthLink Files:

- [Immunizations at 2 months of age](#)
- [Immunizations at 12 months of age](#)

Grade 6 and 9 Information Sheets:

- [Recommended vaccines for grade six students](#)
- [Recommended vaccines for grade nine students](#)

For more resources on informed consent, visit the [BCCDC’s Informed Consent for Immunization](#) page.