



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
655 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4R4

Tel 604.707.2548
Fax 604.707.2515
www.bccdc.ca

Date: February 18, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:09

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2: Immunization,
Part 4 – Biological Products**

Part 4 – Biological Products

COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine COMIRNATY® (Pfizer-BioNTech) (Adult/Adolescent)

- **Doses and Schedule:**
 - Footnotes B and G have been revised to provide additional clarity regarding the preferential use of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for the primary series and booster dose, respectively.
- **Precautions:**
 - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a [recent study](#) in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.
- **Special Considerations:**
 - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated February 4, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine COMIRNATY® (Pfizer-BioNTech) (Pediatric)

- **Precautions:**
 - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for

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treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a [recent study](#) in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Special Considerations:**

- Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated February 3, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine SPIKEVAX™ (Moderna)

- **Doses and Schedule:**

- Footnote A has been revised to indicate that the minimum age for vaccine receipt is based on age at presentation, and to provide additional clarity regarding the preferential use of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for the primary series.
- Footnote G has been revised to provide additional clarity regarding the preferential use of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for the booster dose.

- **Precautions:**

- Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a [recent study](#) in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Special Considerations:**

- Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-5 dated February 4, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine VAXZEVRIA™/COVISHIELD (AstraZeneca/Verity Pharmaceuticals)

- **Doses and Schedule:**
 - Footnote C has been revised to indicate that the minimum age for vaccine receipt is based on age at presentation.
- **Precautions:**
 - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a [recent study](#) in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.
 - Content related to myocarditis/pericarditis has been revised per recent updates to the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine pages.
- **Special Considerations:**
 - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated January 7, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine (Ad26.COVS.S [recombinant]) (Janssen Inc.)

- **Doses and Schedule:**
 - Footnote B has been revised to indicate that the minimum age for vaccine receipt is based on age at presentation.
- **Precautions:**
 - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a [recent study](#) in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.
 - Content related to myocarditis/pericarditis has been revised per recent updates to the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine pages.
- **Special Considerations:**
 - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer

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recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated January 14, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine Screening Checklist

The question regarding receipt of specific medications for COVID-19 prevention and treatment (monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma) was deleted, as a deferral period is no longer recommended prior to COVID-19 vaccination.

Please remove page number: 1 dated December 7, 2021
Please add new page number: 1 dated February 18, 2022

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM
Medical Director
Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

Provincial Health Officer
Dr. Bonnie Henry

Dr. Reka Gustafson
Vice President, Public Health &
Wellness, PHSA & Deputy Provincial
Health Officer

Deputy Provincial Health Officer
Dr. Martin Lavoie

BC Ministry of Health, Population &
Public Health Division:

Brian Sagar
Senior Director Communicable
Disease, Population and Public Health
Division

Bernard Achampong
Executive Director,
Public Health, Planning and Prevention,
Population and Public Health Division

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