

EXTRA PROTECTION: NON-PUBLICLY FUNDED VACCINES FOR CHILDREN

As a health care provider, clients and families trust your recommendations about vaccines

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITIES



- BC health care providers, whether they immunize or not have a vital role to play in ensuring clients make informed decisions about their health and well-being.
- According to the Canadian Medical Protective Association and the Canadian Nurses Association, physicians and nurses should let clients know how they can protect themselves from vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Inform your clients that it is your professional responsibility to explain how they can protect themselves from vaccine preventable diseases through the BC routine vaccine schedule. Discuss the availability of extra protection with non-publicly funded vaccines.
- If you do not provide vaccines, refer clients with questions or those who want to purchase non-publicly funded vaccines, to an immunizing health care provider. Non-publicly funded vaccines are available for purchase at travel health clinics, most pharmacies and some doctors' offices.
- The routine vaccine schedules are publicly funded based on the [BC Immunization Program](#)



RECOMMENDED NON-PUBLICLY FUNDED VACCINES

Click vaccine name for more information	Available for purchase
HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS	Children 9 years of age and older who don't meet other indications for publicly funded HPV vaccine
MENINGOCOCCAL B	Medically high risk individuals 2 months of age and older with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional or anatomical asplenia, including sickle cell disease • Congenital complement, properdin, factor D or primary antibody deficiencies • Acquired complement deficiencies due to receipt of the terminal complement inhibitor eculizumab (Soliris®)
PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE-13	Children up to 18 years of age (inclusive) with asthma which required medical attention in the past 12 months
SEASONAL INFLUENZA	Healthy children 5 years of age or older who don't meet other indications for publicly funded influenza vaccine
TRAVEL VACCINES	Varies by destination. Refer to a travel health clinic

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The purpose of recommending vaccines is to enable clients to make informed health decisions

COMMON QUESTIONS



Q: Why are there non-publicly funded vaccines in BC?

Decisions to fund vaccine programs are made by the Ministry of Health based on recommendations from local immunization and public health experts, led by the Provincial Health Officer. They look at local epidemiology, the best available scientific evidence, and the recommendations of national and international expert groups, which are then prioritized with other public health initiatives. As a result, not all vaccines are publicly funded and clients may choose to purchase vaccines to have extra protection.



Q: Where can clients purchase and receive non-publicly vaccines in BC?

Non-publicly funded vaccines are available from travel health clinics, most pharmacies and some doctors' offices. For more information on non-publicly funded vaccines go to: bcpeds.ca/physicians/programs-resources/immunization/

Q: Where can I find the routine BC vaccine schedules?

[BC Immunization Manual, Part 1-Immunization Schedules](#)



Q: Where can I find vaccine recommendations for clients with medical conditions?

Special populations are recommended to have additional publicly funded vaccines. Refer to the [BC Immunization Manual, Part 2-Immunization of Special Populations](#)

Q: Where can I direct clients with vaccine questions?

Clients can visit [ImmunizeBC.ca](https://immunizebc.ca), bcpeds.ca/families/immunization/ or call HealthlinkBC at 8-1-1.