



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: March 4, 2021

Administrative Circular: 2021:08

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 BNT162b2 (Pfizer-BioNTech)

The product page has been revised as follows:

- **Doses and Schedule:**
 - The recommended interval between dose 1 and 2 has been revised to 4 months. Footnote B has been revised to indicate that an acceptable range for administration of the second dose is 21 days to 4 months after the first dose.
- **Administration:**
 - Additional strategies for extraction of 6 doses from a single vial have been added.
 - Storage at -25°C to -15°C for up to 2 weeks has been added.
- **Precautions:**
 - A link to the [CRA Recommendation on COVID-19 Vaccination in Persons with Autoimmune Rheumatic Disease](#) for more information regarding COVID-19 vaccination for those with an autoimmune condition.
 - Recommendation to defer COVID-19 vaccination for at least 90 days following receipt of monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.
- **Special Considerations:**
 - The recommendation to wait a period of “at least 28 days after the administration of the complete two-dose series” before administration of another vaccine has been revised to “14 days after the administration of each mRNA vaccine dose”.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated February 2021
Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated March 2021

Page 1 of 3

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine mRNA-1273 (Moderna)

The product page has been revised as follows:

- **Doses and Schedule:**
 - The recommended interval between dose 1 and 2 has been revised to 4 months. Footnote B has been revised to indicate that an acceptable range for administration of the second dose is 28 days to 4 months weeks after the first dose.
- **Precautions:**
 - A link to the [CRA Recommendation on COVID-19 Vaccination in Persons with Autoimmune Rheumatic Disease](#) for more information regarding COVID-19 vaccination for those with an autoimmune condition.
 - Recommendation to defer COVID-19 vaccination for at least 90 days following receipt of monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.
- **Special Considerations:**
 - The recommendation to wait a period of “at least 28 days after the administration of the complete two-dose series” before administration of another vaccine has been revised to “14 days after the administration of each mRNA vaccine dose”.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated February 2021
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated March 2021

COVID-19 Vaccine (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) (AstraZeneca/Verity Pharmaceuticals)

- A new product page has been developed for the two non-replicating viral vector ChAdOx1-S (recombinant) vaccines: AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine (supplied by AstraZeneca) and COVISHIELD (supplied by Verity Pharmaceuticals).

Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated March 2021

COVID-19 Vaccine Screening Checklist

- The format has been changed to clearly identify the contraindications, precautions and special considerations for COVID-19 immunization, and the questions pertaining each of these categories.
- Polysorbate 80 has been added to the question pertaining to allergies.

Please remove page number: 1 dated January 8, 2021
Please add new page number: 1 dated March 2021

Please also remove the Title Page and Table of Contents for Part 4 – Biological Products dated January 29, 2021, and replace with the enclosed updated Title Page and Table of Contents dated March 2021.

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:

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