



BC Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service  
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**Date: June 18, 2021**

**Administrative Circular: 2021:25**

**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)**

The product page has been revised as follows:

- **Indications:**
  - Content has been revised to indicate the vaccine is for individuals 12 years of age and older.
- **Contraindications:**
  - Content has been added to indicate that individuals who had an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of these vaccines should be offered an adenovirus vector COVID-19 vaccine and observed for a least 30 minutes after immunization.
- **Adverse Events:**
  - Content has been added regarding Myocarditis and Pericarditis following receipt of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.

**Please remove page numbers: 1-5 dated June 3, 2021**  
**Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated June 18, 2021**

#### **COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine mRNA-1273 (Moderna)**

The product page has been revised as follows:

- **Indications:**
  - Content has been revised to indicate the vaccine is for individuals 18 years of age and older.
- **Storage and Handling:**
  - Room temperature parameters have been revised to indicate vaccine storage time of 24 hours is cumulative.

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- **Contraindications:**
  - Content has been added to indicate that individuals who had an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of these vaccines should be offered an adenovirus vector COVID-19 vaccine and observed for a least 30 minutes after immunization.
- **Adverse Events:**
  - Content has been added regarding Myocarditis and Pericarditis following receipt of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.

**Please remove page numbers:** 1-4 dated June 16, 2021  
**Please add new page numbers:** 1-4 dated June 18, 2021

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

The product page has been revised as follows:

- **Indications:**
  - The content indicating that NACI recommends these vaccines only be offered to individuals 30 year of age and older has been deleted from Footnote B.
- **Contraindications:**
  - Content has been added to indicate that individuals who had an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of these vaccines should be offered an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine and observed for a least 30 minutes after immunization.
  - A history of capillary leak syndrome has been added as a contraindication to the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccines.
- **Adverse Events:**
  - The rate of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia (TTS) following first dose has been updated to 1 in 50,000.
  - A description of capillary leak syndrome and observed rates following receipt of AstraZeneca vaccine has been added.

**Please remove page numbers:** 1-4 dated June 3, 2021  
**Please add new page numbers:** 1-4 dated June 18, 2021

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Screening Checklist**

The screening checklist has been updated as follows:

- A question has been added under Contraindications related to a history of capillary leak syndrome.

**Please remove page number:** 1 dated May 20, 2021  
**Please add new page number:** 1 dated June 18, 2021

The [COVID-19 Vaccines HealthLinkBC File](#) is being updated and will be posted shortly.

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

Sincerely,



Monika Naus MD MHS Sc FRCPC FACPM  
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Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service  
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