



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: September 3, 2021

Administrative Circular: 2021:34

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,
Appendix A – Informed Consent for Immunization**

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Section 4. Step by Step Process for Obtaining Informed Consent, 4.1c) Mature Minors has been updated to remove the recommendation to consult with a Program Manager or Risk Management Consultant for further direction when obtaining mature minor consent for children 12 years of age and younger. This change has been made to remove any perceived barriers for such children who are deemed capable and wish to provide consent on their own behalf (i.e., mature minor consent).

The COVID-19 vaccine is approved for use in those 12 years of age and older, and is being offered to those who will be turning 12 years of age within the calendar year. The Infants Act, which explains the legal position of children under 19 years of age, indicates that there is no legal age of consent for health care in BC; instead, a minor's ability to consent depends upon the minor's level of maturity.

Please remove page number: 5 dated October 2019
Please add new page number: 5 dated September 2021

The following resource has been updated:

- The [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Emergency Use Authorization \(EUA\) Qualified COVID-19 Vaccines](#) resource has been updated as follows:
 - There is no minimum interval required when restarting a COVID-19 vaccine series following receipt of a non-WHO approved vaccine(s).
 - An additional dose of a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine may be provided for individuals upon request if they have been vaccinated with a WHO-approved vaccine series that is not authorized in Canada.

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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,



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