



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: February 25, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:10

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 Vaccine Eligibility

- Novavax COVID-19 vaccine has been added for those 18 years of age and older.
- Footnote A has been updated to indicate that mRNA vaccines are the preferred COVID-19 vaccines for the primary series and booster dose due to the demonstrated high efficacy and effectiveness with longer term safety data. Novavax COVID-19 vaccine may be offered to individuals for whom COVID-19 mRNA vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused. A viral vector COVID-19 vaccine should only be considered when all other authorized COVID-19 vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused, due to the reduced effectiveness and the possible adverse effects associated with viral vector vaccines (e.g., Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome [TTS]).
- Appendix B has been added which outlines those 5-11 years of age who are considered moderately to severely immunocompromised for whom a 3-dose primary series is recommended.

Please remove page numbers: 1 & 2 dated February 3, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1 & 2 dated February 25, 2022

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

- **Contraindications and Precautions:**
Footnote C has been revised to indicate that individuals with a history of anaphylactic reaction to any component of the vaccine or to a previous dose of the vaccine may be offered Novavax COVID-19 vaccine. A viral vector COVID-19 vaccine should only be considered when all other authorized COVID-19 vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused.

Page 1 of 4

Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated February 18, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated February 25, 2022

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine SPIKEVAX™ (Moderna)

- **Contraindications and Precautions:**

Footnote C has been revised to indicate that individuals with a history of anaphylactic reaction to any component of the vaccine or to a previous dose of the vaccine may be offered Novavax COVID-19 vaccine. A viral vector COVID-19 vaccine should only be considered when all other authorized COVID-19 vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused.

Please remove page numbers: 1-5 dated February 18, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated February 25, 2022

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

- **Doses and Schedule:**

Footnote A has been revised to indicate that viral vector vaccines should only be offered when all other authorized COVID-19 vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused.

- **Booster Doses:**

Footnote A has been revised to indicate that viral vector vaccines should only be offered when all other authorized COVID-19 vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated February 18, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated February 25, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine (Ad26.COV2.S [recombinant]) (Janssen Inc.)

- **Doses and Schedule:**

Footnote A has been revised to indicate that viral vector vaccines should only be offered when all other authorized COVID-19 vaccines are contraindicated or have been refused.

- **Booster Doses:**

Content has been updated to indicate that if COVID-19 mRNA vaccines are contraindicated or if the client refuses an mRNA vaccine, a booster dose of Novavax or Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may be provided.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated February 18, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated February 25, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine Nuvaxovid™ (Novavax)

- This new product page has been added.
- Note: a new HealthLinkBC file for this vaccine is currently being developed and will be available soon.

Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated February 25, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine Screening Checklist

- Question 1a was updated to include Novavax within the list of COVID-19 vaccines which contain polysorbate 80.

Please remove page number: 1 dated February 18, 2022
Please add new page number: 1 dated February 25, 2022

Please also remove the Title Page and Table of Contents for Part 4 – Biological Products dated January 2022 and replace with the enclosed updated Title Page and Table of Contents dated February 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 MHS Sc FRCPC FACPM
Medical Director
Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

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