



BC Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service  
655 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4R4

Tel 604.707.2548  
Fax 604.707.2515  
[www.bccdc.ca](http://www.bccdc.ca)

**Date: July 29, 2022**

**Administrative Circular: 2022:33**

**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 & Appendix E – Management of Biologicals**

## **Part 4 – Biological Products**

### **COVID-19 Vaccines**

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine Comirnaty® (Pfizer-BioNTech) Adult/Adolescent (Gray Vial Cap)**

- A new product page has been developed for the Comirnaty® (Pfizer-BioNTech) Adult/Adolescent vaccine supplied with a gray vial cap and gray border around the vial.
- This presentation does not require dilution and has improved stability at refrigerated temperatures of +2°C to +8°C (i.e., 10 weeks) compared to the product with the purple vial cap.

**Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated July 29, 2022**

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine Comirnaty® (Pfizer-BioNTech) Adult/Adolescent (Purple Vial Cap)**

- The vial cap colour has been added to the title of the product page to differentiate this product from the other Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine presentations.
- Content for low dead-volume syringes and/or needles has been streamlined under Administration.
- Content related to reported rates of myocarditis under Adverse Events has been updated.

**Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated July 8, 2022  
Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated July 29, 2022**

Page 1 of 3

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Comirnaty® (Pfizer-BioNTech) Pediatric (Orange Vial Cap)**

- The vial cap colour has been added to the title of the product page to differentiate this product from the other Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine presentations.
- Content under Doses and Schedule for CEV clients has been revised from 6-11 years to 5-11 years to allow for age-appropriate consideration for Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.
- Content for low dead-volume syringes and/or needles has been streamlined under Administration.
- Content related to reported rates of myocarditis under Adverse Events has been updated.

**Please remove page numbers:** 1-5 dated May 5, 2022  
**Please add new page numbers:** 1-5 dated July 29, 2022

**Please also remove the Title Page and Table of Contents for Part 4 – Biological Products dated July 2022 and replace with the enclosed updated Title Page and Table of Contents dated July 29, 2022.**

The new [COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Comparison Table](#) has been developed to highlight the identifiers for each of the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine products supplied in BC. This resource has been posted on the [COVID-19 vaccination toolkit for health professionals](#) under General COVID-19 vaccine information.

### **Appendix E – Management of Biologicals**

#### **Guidance for Receiving and Handling the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine (including dry ice procedures)**

- The content under “Temperature Requirements for Shipping and Storage upon Receipt of the Vaccine” has been extensively revised to include storage and handling information for the 3 different presentations of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

**Please remove page numbers:** 1-12 dated August 31, 2021  
**Please add new page numbers:** 1-13 dated July 29, 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](mailto:stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca)).

Sincerely,



Monika Naus MD MHS Sc FRCPC FACPM  
Medical Director  
Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service  
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

Provincial Health Officer  
Dr. Bonnie Henry

Dr. Reka Gustafson  
Vice President, Public Health &  
Wellness, PHSA & Deputy Provincial  
Health Officer

Deputy Provincial Health Officer  
Dr. Martin Lavoie

BC Ministry of Health, Population &  
Public Health Division:

Brian Sagar  
Senior Director Communicable  
Disease, Population and Public Health  
Division

Bernard Achampong  
Executive Director,  
Public Health, Planning and Prevention,  
Population and Public Health Division