

## Spring 2025 COVID-19 Immunization Program update

Effective April 28, 2025, in accordance with the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), eligible Albertans at higher risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 who have previously received the recommended dose of COVID-19 vaccine after October 1, 2024, will be eligible for a biannual dose. Additionally, Albertans who have not yet received a dose of COVID-19 vaccine since October 1, 2024, can also receive a dose. You can refer to the COVID-19 immunization policy at <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-immunization-policy> for more information.

### COVID-19 biannual dose eligibility

Individuals are required to wait **at least three months after their last dose of COVID-19 vaccine**. The following groups are **eligible to receive a biannual dose of the current COVID-19 vaccine (KP.2)**:

- Individuals 65 years of age and older.
- Individuals six months of age and older with certain immunocompromising conditions (a list can be found on the COVID-19 vaccine product biological pages on the Alberta immunization policy [webpage](#));
  - **Note: hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT), solid organ transplant (SOT), and chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy (CAR-T) patients should be referred to Alberta Health Services Public Health for all immunizations, including COVID-19.**
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit individuals six months of age and older, regardless of where they live; and
- Adults 18 years of age and older who are residents of continuing care homes and senior supportive living accommodations.

### Timing for administration of biannual dose

- It is recommended that the COVID-19 vaccine be **delayed for three months** for individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 (by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or rapid antigen test).
- All other Albertans who received a dose on or after October 1, 2024, and are not listed above, are not currently eligible for a biannual dose.

### COVID-19 vaccine and children

- Pharmacists may only administer provincially funded COVID-19 vaccine **to children five years of age and older**. Children under five years old should be directed to Alberta Health Services Public Health to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Based on current national supply, Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine available in Canada for children six months to 11 years. All of the remaining doses of Moderna vaccine in Canada will expire on June 17, 2025. As a result, eligible **children six months to 11 years will need to receive the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine prior to June 17, 2025**.
  - Due to the expiry of the Moderna product in June it may not be possible for all pharmacies to receive the longest possible dating and as such, some children might need to call 811 for an appointment at Alberta Health Services.

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### COVID-19 spring outreach program

- The Alberta Outreach Immunization Program will be available to individuals living in seniors congregate care facilities starting **April 28, 2025**. Further details regarding the spring 2025 outreach program will be communicated to facilities once planning is finalized. Pharmacies that participated in the fall 2025 outreach program can expect to be contacted by their respective facilities to participate again this spring.

### COVID-19 vaccine supply

- Moderna Spikevax KP.2 mRNA vaccine (six months of age and older) and Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty KP.2 mRNA vaccine (12 years of age and older) are the current products in the province and will be the supply used for the biannual dose (spring). Order judiciously and based on demand through your respective Pharmacy Wholesale distributors. For information regarding the expiry and availability of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, refer to the details listed above.

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For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

**780-498-8370** (Edmonton and area)

**403-294-4041** (Calgary and area)

**1-800-361-9632** (toll free)

**FAX 780-498-8406** (Edmonton and area)

**FAX 1-877-305-9911** (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct-bill drug claims.

Visit [ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php](http://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

