



For use at Alberta Health Services (AHS) immunization programs. Use this form when a parent or alternate decision-maker is **not** able to be with the person being immunized at an AHS immunization service. An alternate decision-maker could be an agent, guardian, specific decision-maker or co-decision-maker. The parent or alternate decision-maker should **complete this form** and **send it** with the person being immunized, to the AHS immunization service. For alternate decision-makers – please also send a copy of documents to show that you are authorized to be the alternate decision-maker.

Personal information for the person being immunized		
Name ( <i>Last, First, Middle</i> )		Date of Birth ( <i>dd-Mon-yyyy</i> )
Personal Health Number (PHN)		Gender
Health information for the person being immunized ( <i>If you need more space, use the other side of this form.</i> )		
Does this person have any allergies, including allergies to any vaccine, medicine, or food? If yes, describe _____		<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does this person have any chronic illness? ( <i>List all if more than one</i> ) If yes, describe _____		<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Is this person taking any medicine?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, describe _____
Is this person pregnant?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Is this person breastfeeding? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Has this person had COVID-19 vaccine before?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, when _____
Has this person ever had a side effect from COVID-19 immunization? If yes, describe _____		<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Will this person get another vaccine in the 14 days before they get the COVID-19 vaccine?		<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Consent		
<p>I confirm that I have read the attached COVID-19 vaccine information. I know about and understand the risks, benefits, and common side effects of this vaccine. Any questions I may have had about this person getting this vaccine have been answered by calling the local public health office or Health Link at 811. I understand the information I have been given.</p> <p>I understand this consent is for all doses of the vaccine. I will contact the local public health office or the healthcare provider giving the COVID-19 vaccine if this person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has any changes to their health before getting any dose of the COVID-19 vaccine</li> <li>• gets another vaccine in the 14 days before they get any dose of the COVID-19 vaccine</li> <li>• has a severe or unusual side effect after the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine (other than the expected side effects listed on the COVID-19 vaccine information sheet)</li> </ul> <p>I consent to this person getting the (only select one):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Viral vector-based COVID-19 vaccine (AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD or Janssen vaccine)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Either an mRNA or viral vector-based COVID-19 vaccine (This depends on what vaccines are available for this person at the time of their immunization.)</p> <p>I understand that I may withdraw this consent at any time by calling the local public health office or healthcare provider giving the COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p>I confirm that I have the legal authority to consent to this immunization.</p>		
Printed name of person giving consent	Daytime phone	Other phone
<p>Relationship to person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Parent (with legal authority to consent) <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian/Legal representative</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Co-decision-maker <input type="checkbox"/> Specific decision-maker <input type="checkbox"/> Agent</p>		
Signature of person giving consent		Date ( <i>dd-Mon-yyyy</i> )

Alberta Health Services collects health information according to Section 20 of the Health Information Act (HIA). This information is used to provide health services, determine eligibility for health services, or to carry out any other purpose authorized by the HIA. If you have any questions about this, please ask the healthcare provider giving the immunization or contact your local public health office. If you do not know your local public health office, call Health Link at 811 to get this information.

# COVID-19 vaccines

**Immunization protects you from disease. Get protected, get immunized.**

- **Vaccines make your immune system stronger. They build antibodies to help prevent diseases.**
- **Immunization is safe. It is much safer to get immunized than to get this disease.**

## What are COVID-19 vaccines?

COVID-19 vaccines protect against the SARS-CoV-2 virus (also known as COVID-19). COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that has caused a worldwide pandemic. The virus causes an infection in the lungs and airways and is a type of respiratory illness. Go to [ahs.ca/covid](https://ahs.ca/covid) to learn more about COVID-19.

There are 2 types of COVID-19 vaccines approved in Canada.

### mRNA vaccines

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are mRNA vaccines.

mRNA vaccines have messenger RNA (mRNA) that teaches your cells to make a protein (called a spike protein). This is a spike protein like the one that is on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. Because the protein is not normally found on your cells, it triggers your immune system to make antibodies against it. So if you come in contact with the real COVID-19 virus, these antibodies will be ready to protect you and fight the virus.

Learn more about COVID-19 mRNA vaccines at [canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html](https://canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html)

### Viral vector-based vaccines

The AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD and Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) vaccines are viral vector-based vaccines.

Viral vector-based vaccines use a harmless virus (that is not COVID-19) to carry information about the virus that causes COVID-19. This virus will not give you COVID-19. It shows your cells how to make a spike protein, like the one that is on the surface of the COVID-19 virus. This protein triggers your immune system to make antibodies against it. If you come in contact with the real COVID-19 virus, these antibodies will be ready to protect you and fight the virus.

Learn more about viral vector-based vaccines for COVID-19 at [canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html](https://canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html)

## Who should get a COVID-19 vaccine?

You should get a COVID-19 vaccine if you are age 16 years and older. You are able to get the vaccine when it is your turn. COVID-19 vaccines are free. Go to [ahs.ca/covidvaccine](https://ahs.ca/covidvaccine) to find out when you can get a COVID-19 vaccine. Please check this page often as it is updated regularly.

Everyone is at risk of COVID-19. The vaccine is very important if you are more likely to be in contact with the virus because of where you work or live. This includes healthcare providers and people who live in a care facility, such as a nursing home.

It is also important to get the vaccine if you have a high risk of complications (problems) related to COVID-19. You have a higher risk of complications from COVID-19 if you:

- have health problems such as heart, lung, kidney, or liver problems, high blood pressure, or diabetes
- have a lot of extra weight
- are over the age of 60 years

## Which COVID-19 vaccine will I get?

Go to [ahs.ca/covidvaccine](https://ahs.ca/covidvaccine) to find out what type of COVID-19 vaccine you can get. Please check this page often as it is updated regularly.

If you are able to get a viral vector-based vaccine, you can choose to have this vaccine now or wait for an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

Once you get your first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, you will not be able to switch to another type of COVID-19 vaccine to complete your immunization.

## Can children under age 16 years get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Children turning ages 12 to 15 years (this year) may get the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine if they have a higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. This includes having certain health problems, such as heart, lung, kidney, or liver problems, diabetes, or a weak immune system.

If a child under age 16 years gets the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine because of their health condition, this is "off-label" use of the vaccine. This means the vaccine is not licensed for this age group, but vaccine experts support its use in certain situations.

A healthcare provider may recommend that a child under age 16 years has the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine if they think a child will benefit from it. Before your child can get the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, they will need a signed letter from their doctor that says they have talked to you and your child about getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

Children under age 18 years need a parent or guardian to go with them to their immunization appointment to give consent for the immunization. If a parent or guardian cannot attend the appointment, they can give their written consent. Please complete the consent form on [www.ahs.ca/firm-21765.pdf](https://www.ahs.ca/firm-21765.pdf) and send it with the person that is taking your child to their appointment. In some cases, children under age 18 years may be able to give their own consent.

## How many doses do I need?

For the COVID-19 vaccines approved in Canada, you need 1 or 2 doses. The number of doses depends on the vaccine you get. If you get a vaccine that needs 2 doses your healthcare provider will let you know when you should get your second dose.

Visit [alberta.ca/covid19-vaccine.aspx](https://alberta.ca/covid19-vaccine.aspx) for more information.

## How well do the COVID-19 vaccines work?

If you are healthy and get all the doses you need, the protection for COVID-19 is about:

- 95% for the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines
- 82% for the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine
- 67% for the Janssen vaccine

After 1 dose of any COVID-19 vaccine, your risk of getting COVID-19 is lowered by about 60 to 80%. All COVID-19 vaccines work very well to lower your risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19. They also lower your risk of needing to be in the hospital.

At this time, there is not enough information to know how long protection lasts or if you will need booster doses. It is still important to practice the recommended public health measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, even if you have had the vaccine. This includes:

- following guidelines of when to wear a mask or other equipment that helps protect you
- washing your hands often
- staying 2 meters away from others
- staying home when you are sick (this means isolating)
- staying home for 14 days after having close contact with someone who has COVID-19 or after returning from travel outside of Canada (this means quarantining)

Visit [ahs.ca/covid](https://ahs.ca/covid) for more information, including information about isolation and quarantine.

### Where can I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Go to [ahs.ca/covidvaccine](https://ahs.ca/covidvaccine) to find out where and when you can get the COVID-19 vaccine.

### Are there side effects from COVID-19 vaccines?

There can be side effects from COVID-19 vaccines, but they tend to be mild and go away in a few days. Side effects may include:

- redness, warmth, swelling, bruising, itching, or feeling sore where you had the needle
- feeling tired or unwell
- a headache
- a fever or chills
- body aches or sore joints
- feeling sick to your stomach (nausea), vomiting (throwing up), or loose stool (diarrhea)
- swollen lymph nodes

It is important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after your vaccine. Some people may have a rare but serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. If anaphylaxis happens, you will get medicine to treat the symptoms.

It is rare to have a serious side effect after a vaccine. Call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

### Rare events after getting either the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD or the Janssen vaccine

There have been very rare reports of blood clots, low levels of platelets (these help your blood to clot), and bleeding after getting either the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD or the Janssen vaccine.

These events happened 4 to 28 days after getting the vaccine. The risk of these events is about 1 case in 100,000 to 250,000 doses of the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine. Research is ongoing to find out the risk of these events after getting the Janssen vaccine.

COVID-19 continues to spread at a high rate in Alberta. Your risk of serious illness from COVID-19 is much higher than it is for developing a rare event after getting these vaccines.

Go to COVID-19 vaccine – Frequently Asked Questions on [ahs.ca/topics/Page17389.aspx](https://ahs.ca/topics/Page17389.aspx) for more information.

If you have any of the following symptoms, get medical help **right away**:

- shortness of breath
- chest pain
- leg swelling
- stomach pain that does not go away
- a severe headache that does not go away
- blurry vision
- bruising (other than where you had the needle)
- red or purple spots anywhere on your body
- bleeding (more easily than normal)

### How can I manage side effects?

- To help with soreness and swelling, put a cool, wet cloth over the area where you had the needle.
- There is medicine to help with a fever or pain. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure what medicine or dose to take. Follow the directions on the package.
- Children under the age of 18 years should **not** take aspirin because it can cause serious health problems.
- Some people with health problems, such as a weak immune system, must call their doctor if they get a fever. If you have been told to do this, call your doctor even if you think the fever is from the vaccine.

### What if I had or am getting another type of vaccine?

Wait at least 28 days after you have a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine before you get another vaccine.

If you have had another vaccine, wait 14 days before you get a COVID-19 vaccine.

### Who should not have a COVID-19 vaccine?

You may not be able to have a COVID-19 vaccine if you:

- have an allergy to any part of the vaccine
  - had a severe (serious) or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it
  - are under age 11 years
  - have had another vaccine in the last 2 weeks
- Check with your doctor or a public health nurse before you get the vaccine.
- Be sure to talk to your doctor **before** you get a COVID-19 vaccine, if you:
- have a weak immune system (because of a medicine you take or a health problem)
  - have an autoimmune disorder (like rheumatoid arthritis or lupus)
  - are pregnant, breastfeeding, or plan to get pregnant in the next 28 days
  - are under age 16 years and have a health condition that puts you at a higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19 (You need a signed letter from your doctor to get the COVID-19 vaccine.)

Always tell your healthcare provider if you have allergies or if you have had a side effect from a vaccine in the past.

### For More Information



Call Health Link at 811



Go to [ImmunizeAlberta.ca](https://immunizealberta.ca)



Go to [MyHealth.Alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca)



Go to [ahs.ca/covidvaccine](https://ahs.ca/covidvaccine)