

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. Alternate decision-makers must also include a copy of the documents showing they are authorized as alternate decision-maker. These documents are required for this person to be immunized.

Personal information for the person being immunized

 Name *(Last, First, Middle)*

 Date of Birth *(dd-Mon-yyyy)*

Personal Health Number (PHN)

Health information for the person being immunized *(If you need more space, use Notes section on reverse of this form.)*

Does this person have any allergies, including allergies to any vaccine, medicine, or food?

 No Yes ► List all allergies and reactions

Does this person have any chronic (long-term) health conditions?

 No Yes ► List all health conditions

If this person is under age 18 years, have they ever had multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C)?

 No Yes Not applicable

Is this person taking any medicine?

 No Yes ► List all medicines

Is this person pregnant?

 No Yes

Is this person breastfeeding?

 No Yes

Has this person had COVID-19 vaccine before?

 No Yes ► List vaccine and date

Has this person ever had a side effect from COVID-19 immunization?

 No Yes ► Describe

 Has this person had myocarditis or pericarditis within 6 weeks of getting a COVID-19 vaccine? No Yes

Has this person had a COVID-19 infection?

 No Yes ► When was their infection?

Has this person had any vaccines in the last 4 weeks?

 No Yes ► List vaccine and date

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.
- I know I can contact my local public health or community health centre or call Health Link at 811 if I have any questions. At the time of signing this form, I have no questions about this person getting this vaccine.
- I understand this consent is for all doses of the vaccine.
- I will contact my local public health or community health centre or the healthcare provider giving the COVID-19 vaccine before this person gets any dose if:
 - their health changes
 - they have a severe or unusual side effect after getting the COVID-19 vaccine (other than the expected side effects listed on the COVID-19 vaccine information sheet)
- I understand the information I have been given.
- I confirm that I have the legal authority to consent to this person's immunization.

 I consent to this person getting *(only select one)*:

- Either the Moderna SpikeVax XBB.1.5 or the Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty XBB.1.5 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine *(Depending which vaccine is recommended for this person at the time of their immunization)*
- Moderna SpikeVax XBB.1.5 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine *(for ages 6 months and older)*
- Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty XBB.1.5 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine *(for ages 5 years and older)*

I understand that I may withdraw (take back) this consent at any time by calling the local public health or community health centre or healthcare provider giving this vaccine.

 Name of Person Giving Consent *(print)*

Signature of Person Giving Consent

 Date *(dd-Mon-yyyy)*

Relationship to person

 Parent (with legal authority to consent)

 Guardian/Legal representative

 Agent

 Co-decision-maker

 Specific decision-maker

 Other _____

Daytime Phone

Other Phone

COVID-19 vaccines – mRNA (age 6 months and older)

What are COVID-19 vaccines?

COVID-19 vaccines protect against the SARS-CoV-2 virus (also known as COVID-19). The virus causes an infection in the lungs and airways and is a type of respiratory illness. In some cases, the infection can cause problems with other organs or other parts of the body. Go to ahs.ca/covid to learn more about COVID-19.

The Moderna SpikeVax XBB.1.5 and Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty XBB.1.5 vaccines are the COVID-19 mRNA vaccines available in Alberta. They are updated mRNA vaccines that help protect you against getting seriously ill from COVID-19, including XBB variants that are currently spreading.

Who should get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine?

Everyone is at risk of COVID-19. You should get an XBB.1.5 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if you are age 6 months or older. COVID-19 vaccines are free.

Do I need a vaccine if I have already had COVID-19?

If you have already had COVID-19, it is not yet known how long your protection will last or how much protection you will have against variants. It is important to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if you have already had the virus.

The vaccine may give you better protection if you wait a while after having COVID-19 and then get a vaccine. How long to wait depends on your health history, the number of doses of COVID-19 vaccine you have had, and your risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.

If you have had COVID-19 in the past, check with your healthcare provider about when to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

What if my child is getting a COVID-19 vaccine?

Consent for a COVID-19 vaccine for children under age 18 years is provided by a parent or guardian. If a parent or guardian cannot be at the appointment, they can give consent in writing using the consent form at ahs.ca/VaccineUnder18. In some cases, children under age 18 years may be able to give their own consent.

How well do COVID-19 vaccines work?

How well the vaccines work against COVID-19 is different for each variant of the virus. COVID-19 vaccines are the best way to lower your risk of getting COVID-19 or getting very sick from it.

The mRNA vaccines give the best protection. The Moderna XBB.1.5 and Pfizer-BioNTech XBB.1.5 vaccines are the only vaccines available in Alberta made to protect against XBB variants that are currently spreading. These updated vaccines will help to lower your risk of getting seriously ill and needing to be in the hospital.

What vaccine can I get?

If you are age 6 months to 4 years, you can get the Moderna XBB.1.5 vaccine.

If you are age 5 years or older, you can get either the Moderna XBB.1.5 vaccine or the Pfizer-BioNTech XBB.1.5 vaccine.

How many doses of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine do I need?

6 months to 4 years

If you are age 6 months to 4 years, you need at least 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, 8 weeks apart. The Moderna XBB.1.5 vaccine can start or complete your 2-dose series.

If you have already had 2 doses of a non-XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine, you can get 1 dose of the Moderna XBB.1.5 vaccine at least 3 months after your last dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Getting this dose of the Moderna XBB.1.5 vaccine sooner than 6 months after your last dose is “off-label use.” Vaccine experts support the 3-month spacing, and research has found no safety concerns.

5 years and older

If you are age 5 years or older, you need 1 dose of XBB.1.5 vaccine at least 3 months from your last dose, regardless of how many doses you have already had.

If you get a dose of an XBB.1.5 vaccine sooner than 6 months after your last dose, it is “off-label use” if:

- You get Moderna XBB.1.5.
- You get Pfizer-BioNTech XBB.1.5 and you are age 5 to 11 years.

Vaccine experts support the 3-month spacing, and research has found no safety concerns.

Weak immune system

You may need extra doses if you have a health problem that weakens your immune system. For example:

- You have had or will have an organ or stem cell transplant.
- You have kidney disease and need dialysis.
- You have acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).
- You take certain medicines that weaken your immune system.

If you have a weak immune system, you need at least 3 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. The XBB.1.5 vaccines can start or complete your 3-dose series. A 3-dose series is “off-label use,” and it is supported by vaccine experts.

If you have already had 3 or more doses of a non-XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine, you can get 1 dose of an XBB.1.5 vaccine at least 3 months after your last dose. If you get a dose of an XBB.1.5 vaccine sooner than 6 months after your last dose, it is “off-label use” if:

- You get Moderna XBB.1.5.
- You get Pfizer-BioNTech XBB.1.5 and you are age 5 to 11 years.

Vaccine experts support the 3-month spacing, and research has found no safety concerns.

Studies show that extra doses may give better protection to adolescents and adults with a weak immune system. In babies and children with a weak immune system, extra doses may also give better protection, but research is still happening to learn more.

Research has shown mRNA vaccines provide the best protection for people with a weak immune system. Information from the use of the original mRNA vaccines shows that the Moderna mRNA vaccine may provide better protection than the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for people with a weak immune system.

If you are age 12 to 29 years with a weak immune system and have not had 3 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, the Pfizer-BioNTech XBB.1.5 vaccine is recommended to start or complete your 3-dose series. This is because the risk of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the lining around the heart) was shown to be lower after the first and second dose of the original Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine compared with the original Moderna mRNA vaccine. However, you can choose to have either vaccine.

Both vaccines have a similar lower risk of myocarditis and pericarditis following additional doses that are given after the second dose. Talk to your healthcare provider if you have questions.

If you have had a stem cell transplant or are getting CAR T-cell therapy (a type of cancer treatment), talk to your healthcare provider about when you can get a dose of XBB.1.5 vaccine and how many doses you need.

Can I get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?

Yes, you can get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. There is more to learn about the Moderna XBB.1.5 and Pfizer-BioNTech XBB.1.5 vaccines while pregnant or breastfeeding, but the information from the original mRNA vaccines found no concerns. Research shows that

mRNA vaccines are the safest type of COVID-19 vaccines to get while pregnant or breastfeeding.

While you are pregnant, you have a higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine lowers your risk of getting seriously ill from the virus.

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding and have questions about getting a COVID-19 vaccine, talk to your healthcare provider.

Where can I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Go to ahs.ca/covidvaccine to find out where and when you can get a COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 vaccines are free.

Are there side effects from mRNA COVID-19 vaccines?

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

- redness, swelling, a hard spot, or feeling sore where you had the needle
- feeling tired or have a headache
- a fever or chills
- body aches or sore joints
- feeling stiff
- pain in your arms or legs
- feeling sick to your stomach (nausea), vomiting (throwing up), loose stool (diarrhea)
- swollen lymph nodes
- swelling or feeling sore in your armpit or groin
- feeling dizzy
- a reduced sense of touch or a feeling of numbness
- a rash or hives

Children age 5 years and younger may also get upset easily, be sleepy, cry, or may not want to eat.

At least 1 out of 100 people who got this vaccine reported 1 or more of these side effects. In some cases, it is unknown if the vaccine caused these side effects.

Current information shows that there is similar risk of side effects after each dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

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. Call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

What rare events have been reported after getting an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine?

There have been very rare reports of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the lining around the heart) within 7 days of getting an mRNA vaccine. Most reported cases were mild and got better with treatment.

The inflammation can cause shortness of breath, chest pain or pressure, or a very fast or abnormal heart rate. Get medical help **right away** if you have any of these symptoms.

Research has shown a lower risk of these rare events following the first and second dose of the original Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine compared to the original Moderna mRNA vaccine, especially among 12- to 29- year-olds. Research has shown that the risk of these rare events after additional doses is lower than the risk after the second dose for any type of mRNA vaccine.

Research has shown that children age 5 to 11 years have a lower risk of these events than adolescents and adults.

In clinical trials for both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, there were no reports of myocarditis or pericarditis in children age 6 months to 5 years.

Research is still happening to learn more about the risk of these events after getting an XBB.1.5 vaccine.

It is not known if having a history of myocarditis or pericarditis puts you at higher risk of having these rare events after a COVID-19 vaccine. Talk to your doctor before you get a dose of COVID-19 vaccine if:

- You had myocarditis or pericarditis within 6 weeks of getting a COVID-19 vaccine.
- You have a history of myocarditis or pericarditis and you have questions about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Research is happening to learn more about the risks of these rare events. Your risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19 is much higher than your risk of having a rare event after these vaccines.

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.
- 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?

You can get most vaccines at the same time as, any time before, or any time after an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, including routine vaccines and the influenza vaccine. However, certain vaccines have a waiting period. If you had another vaccine in the last 4 weeks, check with your healthcare provider about when you can get the mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

Who should not get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine?

You may not be able to get the XBB.1.5 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if:

- You have an allergy to any part of the vaccine.
- You had a severe (serious) or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it.
- You are under age 6 months.

If you have allergies or have had a side effect to this vaccine, check with your doctor or a public health nurse before you get the vaccine.

Although you can get the vaccine if you have a mild illness such as a cold or fever, you should stay home until you are feeling better to prevent spreading your illness to others.

Check with your healthcare provider about when you can get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if:

- You had COVID-19 in the past.
- You are under age 18 years and have a history of multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C).

Be sure to talk to your doctor **before** you get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if:

- You have a weak immune system (because of a medicine you take or a health problem).
- You have had a stem cell or organ transplant.
- You are getting CAR T-cell therapy (a type of cancer treatment).
- You have a history of myocarditis or pericarditis within 6 weeks of getting a dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information about immunization



Call Health Link at 811



Scan the QR code or go to ahs.ca/immunize