

# ISLAND HEALTH MEDICAL STAFF BULLETIN

January 5, 2022



- [Expression of Interest for Delivering COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Are you a midwife, nurse practitioner or physician able to join Island Health's time-limited COVID-19 immunization team? With the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, Island Health is ramping up immunization capacity across the island and needs your help to fill immunizer shifts. Please click on this [link](#) to express interest. If you have already expressed interest through the survey link - thank you! Nothing further is required of you at this time.

- [Working after a COVID-19 test or exposure](#)

The isolation period following a COVID-19 test or exposure has been reduced to 5 days in certain situations. If you have symptoms of COVID-19 you can call the healthcare expedited testing line at 1-833-737-9377 to access testing. Note that this phone number is **not** for family members or members of the public.

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**BCCDC COVID-19 Case Reports**

COVID 19 Cases:

	Today's New Cases	New Cases since December 22 (last bulletin)	Active Cases	Currently hospitalized (ICU)	Cumulative Cases	Total Deaths
<b>BC</b>	3,798	39,337	29,967	317(83)	270,508	2,427
<b>Island Health</b>	566	4,727	3,631	63(14)	19,871	145

\*\* Data from BCCDC public dashboard\*\*

**PHO/MHO News Release**

**BCCDC COVID-19 Canadian and Global Epidemiology**

**BC COVID-19 Dashboard:** [Click here](#) for a daily update on COVID-19 numbers for British Columbia, Vancouver Island and other health regions. \*Updates made after 4pm daily.

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## COVID-19 Updates:

- **Appropriate Use of PPE: N95 in elevated risk scenarios only**

All care providers are asked to follow the [BCCDC Point of Care Risk Assessment](#) process for all patient/client/resident interactions. If the assessment identifies an 'elevated risk', additional PPE such as respirators will be provided to the healthcare worker. An updated BCCDC/MoH/ Island Health document outlines the [most appropriate PPE](#) for healthcare workers by clinical activity and setting.

- [Self-reporting COVID-19 Positive Test Result: BCCDC Portal](#)

It is important for medical staff and all people in BC to self-report a positive COVID-19 test result. Confidential self-reporting through the BCCDC portal provides contact tracers with important information to help determine those in the population who may need additional supports during the course of their infection.

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## COVID-19 Outbreaks:

- [Island Health declares COVID-19 outbreaks at five long-term care homes](#)

Outbreaks have been declared at Aberdeen Hospital, Glenwarren Lodge and

Selkirk Seniors' Village in Victoria and at Kiwanis Village Lodge and Eden Gardens in Nanaimo.

- [Island Health declares COVID-19 outbreak at Amica Douglas House long-term care home in Victoria](#)

Island Health declared a COVID-19 outbreak on the second floor at Amica Douglas House long-term care home in Victoria. Two staff members at the site have tested positive for COVID-19. At this time, no residents are experiencing symptoms and the outbreak declaration is limited to the second floor.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Information:

### COVID-19 Vaccine Information:

Island Health region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (5+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) Two Doses & Boosters To Date
<b>1,604,737</b>	<b>90.7%</b>	<b>84.8%</b>	<b>16.7%</b>

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility](#)

Information about eligibility for booster doses for people age 63 and older was

updated on the [Vaccine Registration and Eligibility](#) page and in the Immunization Manual in the [Vaccine Eligibility](#).

- [Supporting anxious adults and youth with their COVID-19 vaccinations](#)

With access to reliable, factual information and support from experienced Public Health professionals on-site at Island Health immunization clinics, anxiety and fear should not be barriers to getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

## COVID-19 Reports:

- [BCCDC COVID-19 LTC, AL&Independent Living Report](#)
- [Geographic distribution of COVID-19 by local health area of case residence](#)

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## B.C. COVID-19 Pandemic Updates:

- [B.C. COVID-19 pandemic update | Jan 5](#)
- [B.C. COVID-19 pandemic update | Jan 4](#)

## Spotlight:



- [Physicians practicing in Rural Communities](#)

If you are a physician practicing in a [rural community](#) you may qualify for rural incentives. The Rural Physician Confirmation Process is an annual process to determine physician eligibility for rural benefits, such as the Rural Continuing Medical Education (RCME) and the Rural Retention Program (RRP). In order to

determine eligibility for rural benefits, the Ministry of Health needs our full count of physicians residing and/or practicing in rural communities by mid-January 2022.

- If you have not received an email to complete the rural physician online form, you can access the online form through this link  
<https://surveys.viha.ca/surveys/2022-physician-count.aspx>.
- Questions can be sent to: [MedStaffDevelopment@islandhealth.ca](mailto:MedStaffDevelopment@islandhealth.ca).
- [Weather Warning - heavy, blowing snow and freezing rain](#)  
Be prepared for heavy snowfall and blowing snow and possibly freezing rain starting Wednesday afternoon into Thursday as a low pressure system approaches the BC coast this evening.

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## Newsletters:

- [Mental Health & Substance Use Update: December 2021](#)  
The MHSU Update is a monthly communication that is intended to connect Island Health staff with developments and achievements across the portfolio.
  - [Primary Care Update | January 5](#)  
This latest update focuses on the Omicron Variant & COVID-19 Cases Accelerating, and much more.
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## Island Health End of Day & CEO Messages:

- [Pandemic Planning COVID-19 Update | January 4](#)
  - [Pandemic Planning COVID-19 Update | December 29](#)
  - [Pandemic Planning COVID-19 Update | December 24](#)
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## Upcoming Events:

- [Dr. Renee Janssen | BC ECHO for Post-Covid-19 Recovery Session 7 | January 11 12:00-13:00](#)
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If you wish to add a Calendar Event to your personal Outlook Calendar, click this button at the top of the calendar pop-up



All upcoming events found on the calendar of events page

[Calendar of Events page](#)

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The next email bulletin will occur **January 12th** unless additional updates are necessary.

The [medical staff website](#) is updated Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

If you have any questions, please email [MedStaffCommunications@viha.ca](mailto:MedStaffCommunications@viha.ca) :

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**Health, Wellness & Urgent Support Services available for  
Medical Staff**



Thank you for reading the Medical Staff Bulletin.