

Moderna Spikevax for Kids 6 Months to 5 Years Old – August 3, 2022

On July 14, 2022, [Health Canada approved](#) the Moderna Spikevax mRNA COVID-19 vaccine formulated for children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years old. The vaccine became available for this age group across B.C. beginning on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

“Vaccination against COVID-19 remains the most effective way to reduce the risk of needing to be hospitalized due to COVID-19,” said Dr. Mike Benusic, Medical Health Officer at Island Health. “Children fortunately are at low risk of severe disease from COVID-19. Low risk, however, does not equal no risk. Vaccinations can help further reduce the risk of children getting really sick from COVID-19.”

NACI is recommending a two-dose series of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months to 5 years of age with a dosing interval of at least 8 weeks between the first and second dose. The Moderna mRNA vaccine for young children uses a smaller dosage of the same vaccine used for youth and adults. Children aged 6 months to 5 years receive a 25 microgram dose, which is a quarter of the dosage for adults. NACI is also recommending a primary series of three doses of the COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months to 5 years of age who are moderately to severely immunocompromised with an interval of 4 to 8 weeks between each dose.



Parents must register their children in the [Get Vaccinated system](#). Once registration is complete, parents will be invited to book a vaccine appointment at their local community clinic when immunization starts in August. Parents can register children younger than 6 months now. When the child turns 6 months, the parent will get an invitation to book an appointment. Appointments are necessary for these vaccines and will be held in child-friendly local immunization clinics. Pediatric COVID-19 vaccines are not available in pharmacies.

Primary care providers are trusted voices on immunizations. Having a conversation with parents who have young children about the importance of immunizations is an important step for reducing the spread of COVID-19. Feel free to share the [digital toolkit](#), [poster](#) and [Q&A](#) with your patients.

Island Health Region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (5+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) Two Doses & Boosters To Date
2,109,414	93.9%	91.1%	66.6%

NEW RESOURCES

[Online Registration: COVID-19 Vaccination for Young Children](#)

Parents can register children now to start receiving the Moderna Spikevax mRNA COVID-19 vaccine formulated for children. Vaccinations started on August 2, 2022.

[COVID-19 Symptoms, Testing and Results](#)

This updated page gives you the information required to navigate testing services and explains what to do if you are exposed to COVID-19 or test positive.

[Online Registration: Monkeypox Vaccination for Eligible Individuals](#)

Island Health is launching a targeted vaccination campaign for those currently at highest risk of acquiring and spreading monkeypox.

- [Book an appointment at a Monkeypox Vaccination Clinic](#) and learn more on the [BCCDC Webpage](#).

Community Virtual Care: Remote Home Monitoring for Heat Exhaustion, Smoke Inhalation and COVID-19

Community Virtual Care provides remote home monitoring for vulnerable adults with mild to moderate symptoms of Heat Exhaustion, Smoke Inhalation and COVID-19.

- Make referrals through [Community Access to Community Health Services](#) (Intranet Log-In Required)
- All referrals are treated as high priority; patient will be provided with the patient support guide.
- The program is staffed by registered nurses and is available 7 days a week, 08:00-20:00.
- More information can be found on the [Community Virtual Care Page](#) (Intranet Log-In Required)
- Email communityvirtualcare@islandhealth.ca for more information or referral options and supports.

[Toxic Drug Crisis: Island Health Response](#)

Island Health is strengthening our response to the toxic drug crisis in alignment with the provincial government, and addressing the toxic drug crisis is part of Island Health's Strategic Framework.

[Reminder: Masking Policy](#)

COVID-19 has evolved over time, and it has become more transmissible but less virulent. Mask wearing remains in place throughout our healthcare facilities, and it is important to be familiar with the Island Health Mask Policy.

[Past Issues of the Island Health Primary Care Update](#)

BCCDC Resources:

- [New Today](#): This section of the website highlights the latest guidance documents and updates to the website for health professionals.
- [About the vaccines](#)
- [Resources for Health Professionals](#)
- [Reporting adverse events](#)

Doctors of BC:

- [Info for doctors getting or giving the vaccine](#)
- [Updated toolkit for doctors' offices](#)

Frequently Asked Questions:

- [ImmunizeBC FAQ](#)