

**March 17, 2021 – Phase 2 Nears Completion**

At the end of last week, we observed the one year mark since the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic – and one year since Island Health had its first case of COVID-19. As of March 16th – 81, 886 vaccine doses have been administered and 69,315 individuals have received at least one dose. Remarkably, Phase 1 of the [Immunization Plan](#) is complete, and efforts are now underway to complete the final vaccinations for Phase 2.

Island Health has successfully contacted most primary care providers and staff eligible in Phase 2 to offer COVID-19 vaccination appointments. Similar to the process we shared last week for Phase 1, we are providing primary care providers and staff eligible in Phase 2 with a form (see below) to schedule their vaccination if they missed this opportunity for any reason. We appreciate your engagement and we are pleased that this follow-up process is working to identify and immunize primary care providers and staff in each of these critical phases.

Phase 2 public mass vaccination is now focused on seniors aged 80+ and indigenous people aged 65+ and elders who are not yet immunized. In addition, Island Health is also launching a whole of community approach to vaccinations in communities with a small population (under 4,000 residents) and where there are challenges with accessibility (ie, accessible only by ferry or air or more than 3 hours ground travel from a hospital). A [list of these communities](#) is now available, and clinics dates will be made available as soon as they are confirmed.

<b>Phase 1</b> Dec 2020-Feb 2021	<b>Phase 2</b> Feb-March 2021
<b>High-risk population</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents, staff, and essential visitors to long-term care and assisted living</li> <li>Individuals assessed for/awaiting long-term care</li> <li>Hospital health care workers who may provide care for COVID-19 patients</li> <li>Remote and isolated Indigenous communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seniors aged 80+ who are not yet immunized</li> <li>Indigenous seniors aged 65+, Elders, and additional communities not yet immunized</li> <li>Hospital staff, community GPs and medical specialists not yet immunized</li> <li>Vulnerable populations in select congregated settings</li> <li>Staff in community home support and nursing services for seniors</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 3</b> April-June 2021	<b>Phase 4</b> July-Sept 2021
<b>General population</b>	
People aged 79 to 60, in five year increments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>79 to 75</li> <li>74 to 70</li> <li>69 to 65</li> <li>64 to 60</li> <li>People aged 69 to 16 who are clinically extremely vulnerable</li> </ul>	People aged 59 to 18, in five year increments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>59 to 55</li> <li>54 to 50</li> <li>49 to 45</li> <li>44 to 40</li> <li>39 to 35</li> <li>34 to 30</li> <li>29 to 25</li> <li>24 to 18</li> </ul>
Once more vaccines are approved/available, people 64 to 18 yrs who are front-line essential workers or work in specific workplaces/industries may be included later in Phase 3.	

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

*Phase 2 Immunization for Primary Care Providers*

Similar to Phase 1, we want to ensure that primary care providers and staff eligible in Phase 2, who may have missed the call centre message, changed their mind about the vaccine or been inadvertently missed in our communication have an opportunity to make an appointment.

- For primary care providers or staff who qualified for Phase 2 and missed for any reason, we have activated an [online form](#) so those individuals can receive their vaccination.
  - To be eligible for vaccination at this time you must meet **specific criteria** that will be verified by the online form, which will remain open until March 30th, 2021.

### *First Deployment of AstraZeneca Vaccine in B.C.*

- Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s Provincial Health Officer (PHO), and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health released a [joint statement](#) indicating that “the initial shipment of AZ/SII vaccine will [now] be used to protect workers in industries where full use of personal protective equipment and barriers can be challenging, outbreaks and clusters have occurred or are ongoing, and workers must live or work in congregate settings.

### *COVID-19 Vaccination Patient Information Access*

All physicians and other providers who have access to PowerChart can access their patients' COVID-19 vaccination information using CareConnect and our [guidance document](#).

#### CareConnect (Provincial eHealth Viewer): What's New?

- A secure, view-only Electronic Health Record that provides access to an integrated and patient-centric view of clinical information (e.g. labs, immunizations, acute care records, imaging reports, clinical documents and medications information from Pharmanet)
- Now available to physician and nurse practitioners via internet browser! Rapid Access over internet via your EMR is in progress (i.e. enables providers to go from their EMR to CareConnect in ~5-6 seconds while on patient context).
- CareConnect enrolment is easy, and takes less than an hour of your time. To get started, please fill out the **CareConnect Worksite Intake Form** at [this link](#). When complete, they will reach out and send the next steps. Questions? Email [private.careconnect@phsa.ca](mailto:private.careconnect@phsa.ca)

### *Primary Care Grand Rounds*

[Primary Care Grand Rounds](#) are taking place March 25th at 8:00-9:00am – Learn more about the prevalence and symptomatology of post-COVID 19 syndrome and resources for primary care providers.

## LINKS, RESOURCES & FAQs

#### **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](#)