

Ordering Influenza Vaccine & COVID-19 Treatment Resources – November 2, 2022

Dr. Mike Benusic, Island Health Medical Health Officer, is sharing with primary care providers that “the ordering of influenza was delayed this season to ensure influenza vaccines were available in COVID-19 vaccination clinics. As of October 24th orders can now be placed; please keep in mind when ordering that patients may have already been vaccinated through pharmacies or Island Health clinics. Island Health will fill orders based on our supply, and the provider’s previous usage and wastage. For larger orders, we will provide a proportion of the order first to ensure it’s being used up – there is high demand for influenza vaccines this year so we need to make sure wastage is low.” More information is in the [MHO newsletter](#) and on the [Island Health website \(with ordering forms\)](#), and providers can reach



Dr. Benusic for questions/concerns at michael.benusic@islandhealth.ca or 250-519-3406 (office phone).

Anyone can make an appointment for influenza vaccine and COVID-19 booster through the same [provincial booking system](#) and receive both vaccines during the same appointment at local pharmacies and mass immunization clinics. If you're registered with the Get Vaccinated system, the province will send you an email or SMS text when it's time to book your next appointment for flu vaccine or COVID booster. If you have not received an invitation to date and are registered, you can [request a new invitation online](#) or call the provincial Get Vaccinated line to book directly with an agent **1-833-838-2323**. Currently, the Get Vaccinated system will not allow you to book vaccine appointments separately (such as on different days), but you can book to receive both vaccines during the same appointment. If patients want to receive COVID-19 and flu vaccines at different appointments, they will need to complete one vaccine before booking another appointment.

On October 31st the Government of British Columbia [announced](#) a tentative agreement on the 2022 Physician Master Agreement (PMA), which will soon go to members for further ratification. Detailed information on the tentative agreement, including an overview and detailed summary, can be found on the Doctors of BC [Tentative Physician Master Agreement webpage](#) (login required).

Island Health Region Total COVID-19 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
2,347,893	94.2%	91.5%	68.0%

NEW RESOURCES

[BCCDC – COVID-19 Treatment – Therapeutic Care Pathway for Mild-Moderate COVID-19](#)

- The COVID-19 Therapeutics Pathway is available for clinicians to help their patients appropriately navigate through the current available resources so as to receive appropriate, effective and timely care.

[BCCDC – COVID-19 Action Plan for Patient Treatment Discussions](#)

- A BCCDC endorsed COVID-19 Action Plan for aiding patient treatment discussions before contracting COVID-19.

[Provincial Health Services Authority – Post COVID-19 Online Learning Sessions – 12 Recordings w/ Slides](#)

- Based on the [global ECHO model](#), the BC ECHO for Post-COVID-19 Recovery was a virtual learning community of specialists and community health-care providers who used instructive and case-based learning to improve care for patients recovering from [symptoms post-COVID-19](#).

[Island Health Research Dispatch](#)

- Every November, Island Health Research hosts a month of collaborative events, bringing together leaders and researchers, healthcare providers and patients to learn about the importance of translating evidence into practice to improve care and outcomes.

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

BCCDC Resources:

- [New Today](#): Highlights the latest guidance documents and updates to the website
- [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](#)