

The COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in Canada include: [Comirnaty® \(Pfizer-BioNTech\) – Adult/Adolescent presentation](#), [Comirnaty® \(Pfizer-BioNTech\) – Pediatric presentation](#), [Spikevax™ \(Moderna\)](#), [Vaxzevria™/COVISHIELD \(AstraZeneca\)](#), and [Janssen \(Ad26.COV2.S \[recombinant\]\)](#). Refer to the respective product page for product specific information.

Primary Series	
Eligibility Criteria	Number of Doses
Pediatric population – 5 to 11 years of age (inclusive)	2 doses of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pfizer: 0.2 mL (10 mcg)
General population – 12 years of age and older	2 doses ^A of any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pfizer: 0.3 mL (30 mcg) - <i>preferred for 12-29 year olds</i> Moderna: 0.5 mL (100 mcg) AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (≥ 18 years of age): 0.5 mL OR 1 dose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janssen (≥ 18 years of age): 0.5 mL
Moderately to severely immunosuppressed (see Appendix A) – 12 years of age and older	3 doses ^A of any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderna: 0.5 mL (100 mcg) - <i>preferred</i> Pfizer: 0.3 mL (30 mcg) AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (≥ 18 years of age): 0.5 mL <p>* For individuals who received a single dose of Janssen vaccine, a 2-dose primary series is recommended.</p>
Booster Dose ^{B, C}	
Eligibility Criteria	Number of Doses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of long term care (LTC), assisted living and independent living facilities, and alternate level of care clients awaiting placement in LTC Individuals 70 years of age and older 	1 dose – at least 6 months after completion of the primary series: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pfizer: 0.3 mL (30 mcg) Moderna: 0.5 mL (100 mcg)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals 18-69 years of age 	1 dose – at least 6 months after completion of the primary series: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pfizer: 0.3 mL (30 mcg) - <i>preferred for 18-29 year olds</i> Moderna: 0.25 mL (50 mcg) <p>* For individuals who received a 1-dose Janssen primary series, a booster dose is recommended at least 2 months later.</p>

^A mRNA vaccines are preferred over viral vector vaccines due to the better effectiveness and immunogenicity of mRNA vaccines and the possible adverse effects specifically associated with viral vector vaccines (e.g., Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome [TTS]).

^B The booster dose is authorized for individuals 18 years of age and older.

^C Pregnant persons 18 years of age and older may receive a booster dose at least 8 weeks after completion of the primary series.

Appendix A

Moderately to severely immunosuppressed includes:

- Have had a solid organ transplant (heart, lung, liver, kidney, pancreas or islet cells, bowel or combination organ transplant).
- Since January 2020, have received treatment with any anti-CD20 agents (i.e., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab, obinutuzumab, ibritumomab, tositumomab).
- Since January 2020, have been treated with B-cell depleting agents (i.e., epratuzumab, MEDI-551, belimumab, BR3-Fc, AMG-623, atacicept, anti-BR3, alemtuzumab).
- Since October 2020, have received or are receiving radiation therapy for cancer.
- Since March 2020, have received or are receiving systemic therapy for solid tumours as well as hematological cancers (including chemotherapy, molecular therapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapies including CAR-T, monoclonal antibodies, hormonal therapy for cancer).
- Have combined immune deficiencies affecting T-cells, immune dysregulation (particularly familial hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis) or type 1 interferon defects (caused by a genetic primary immunodeficiency disorder or secondary to anti-interferon autoantibodies).
- Since September 2019, have had a bone marrow or stem cell transplant or are still taking immunosuppressant medications related to transplant.
- Have a moderate to severe primary immunodeficiency which has been diagnosed by an adult or pediatric immunologist and requires ongoing immunoglobulin replacement therapy (IVIG or SCIG) or the primary immunodeficiency has a confirmed genetic cause (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- On dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis) or have stage 5 chronic kidney disease (eGFR <15 mL/min) or have glomerulonephritis and receiving steroid treatment.
- Prior AIDS defining illness or CD4 count $\leq 200/\text{mm}^3$ or CD4 fraction $\leq 15\%$ or detectable plasma viral load since January 2021 or HIV infection and ≥ 65 years old or perinatally acquired HIV infection.
- Have taken significantly immunosuppressing drugs or treatments including at risk biologics, steroids and other agents since December 15, 2020. ^D

^D A list of these medications can be found on the [government of B.C. website](#).
Communicable Disease Control Manual
Chapter 2: Immunization
Part 4 - Biological Products