

# The Immunizer

A quarterly newsletter for community vaccine providers (CVP) in the Interior Health Region.

March 2023



## The Immunizer Turns One!

This edition marks our one-year anniversary! How are we doing?

We would appreciate your feedback. Is there immunization content that you would like us to include? See the Questions section for how to reach us!

## Make sure you are Allocated Influenza Vaccine Next Season

Immunizers are encouraged to submit influenza immunization reporting prior to the April 30 2023 deadline. **Reported uptake is used to determine next season's allocations.** Links to the forms below:

[Report of Influenza Immunization Form - IH #823160 \(interiorhealth.ca\)](#)

[Report of Influenza and COVID-19 Immunization LTC & Assisted Living - IH #821550 \(interiorhealth.ca\)](#)

Did you know expired vaccines returned promptly result in partial credit back to BCCDC? Please do your part in getting unusable flu vaccine back! Click the link for the return form.

[influenza-vaccine-return-form.pdf \(interiorhealth.ca\)](#)

## Tetanus

Every spring we see an increase in injuries as people start cleaning up their yards/gardens. A review of the [Tetanus Prophylaxis in Wound Management](#) table may be good idea. You can review a patient's immunization history as recorded in the BC Provincial Immunization Registry on CareConnect.

Don't forget that when unimmunized/under immunized children present with a wound an age-appropriate tetanus containing product can be offered instead of Td. See [Age Appropriate Tetanus Containing Vaccines](#) to help determine the correct vaccine product to offer and the [Publicly Funded Vaccine Order Form](#) to order vaccine stock.



## Reporting Cold Chain Incidents

Reporting cold chain incidents is now easier than ever! Incidents can be reported 27/7 by calling or texting 250-231-2563. Completed [Cold Chain Incident Forms](#) are emailed to [Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca)



## School Immunizations

Public Health Nurses are out immunizing in schools across IH this spring, some for grade 9 vaccines and others for the second round of grade 6 vaccines. Students may present to pharmacies for immunization. See the IH [School-Age Children & Youth Immunization](#) page and [Grade 6 and 9](#)

[Immunization](#) for more information on what Public Health communicates with parents & students.

Need to order vaccines? Use the IH [Publicly Funded Vaccine Order Form](#).

Students/patients with out of province immunization records are encouraged to update or submit their vaccine records to the BC Provincial Immunization Registry. Submit online at <https://www.immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca>

## Pearls for Immunization Practice

Are you interested in refreshing your immunization knowledge including knowing how to answer clinical vaccine questions using up to date immunization resources? Do you want tips to improve vaccination technique and efficiency?

[Pearls for Immunization Practice](#) is an online self-learning course for all interested immunization providers, which takes approximately 90 minutes to complete. It is especially helpful for physicians, pharmacists, and other community vaccine providers who are new to immunization practice in BC. It is also a great refresher! This course is CME accredited through UBC.

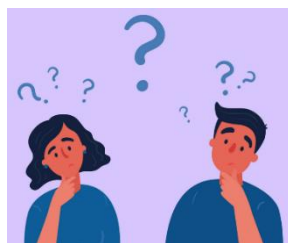


## Imms Competency Course

The newly revised BCCDC Immunization Competency Course ([#20112](#)) is now live on LearningHub.

The updated [BCCDC Competency Course](#) is an amalgamation of the former BCCDC Immunization Competency Courses for RNs, RPNs, LPNs, Pharmacists and Other Health Professionals and includes the incorporation of anaphylaxis management training as well as considerations for the delivery of culturally safe care within immunization programs. This course is intended for all health professionals who administer immunizations in BC. For more information regarding the course update see the [Q&A](#).

Additional updates include the [Immunization Skills Checklist](#) and [Learning Plan Template](#).



## Questions?

If you have a question, we are happy to help!

- Clinical Immunization Questions: [ImmunizationProgram@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:ImmunizationProgram@interiorhealth.ca)
- Biological Vaccine Product Questions: [Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca)

*Follow us on Social Media!*

