

The Immunizer

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

March 2025

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine

You have an important role in preventing cancer. Whether you administer vaccines, including the HPV vaccine or talk to patients about it, it's not often that you can provide or promote a single service that will prevent cancer versus just incrementally decrease the risk.

For more information visit: [Human papillomavirus \(HPV9\) vaccine | Immunize BC](#)



[International Papillomavirus Society \(IPVS\)](#) is hosting a Webinar on **March 18, 2025, at 09:30 am PST**



Behavioural & Implementation Science in Action: A Case Study of the HPV Vaccine Task Force in Ontario Canada.

In this presentation, join experts as they share insights from the HPV Vaccine Task Force, highlighting real-world solutions to improve vaccine uptake and collaboration across healthcare, research and policy. Learn how this task force is addressing key challenges, changing perceptions and setting the stage for the future of HPV immunization in Canada.

To Register: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Spring Respiratory Vaccine Campaign

While a start date has not yet been confirmed, we anticipate a Spring Respiratory Campaign will commence in April and expected recommendations of a dose of COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to the following populations:

- Adults 80 years of age and older
- Individuals with underlying medical conditions, specifically people in CEV groups 1, 2, and 3 (see [Appendix A](#))
- Residents of long-term care homes and assisted-living facilities

Additionally, adults 65 and 79 years of age and older may receive a second dose.

Order vaccine thru REDCap

1. Request your link to the pre-order/order form from Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca.
2. When you receive your link, complete your site information and submit your projected amounts of vaccine and supplies needed, i.e. how many beds are in your location. This helps us position vaccine around IH to ensure your actual amount of vaccine needs are met.
3. Once you receive consent back from clients, return to the REDCap link and enter the actual doses and supplies required. This number is what you will receive for vaccine doses and supplies.

Note: we require four business days prior to your clinic to prepare your order.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca



Request for Serum Tryptase

Emergency department staff will start seeing the new BCCDC [Request for Serum Tryptase letter](#) arriving with clients managed as anaphylaxis by Public Health. Because one of the major criteria for the Brighton Collaboration case definition of anaphylaxis is an elevation in mast cell tryptase, measuring tryptase levels is considered an important component in determining an anaphylaxis diagnosis.

We appreciate the cooperation of ED physicians in ordering these serum tryptase tests during the optimum period of 30 minutes to 3 hours after the anaphylaxis event. These results will help the Medical Health Officer with assessment during review of adverse events following immunization.

CD Manual Updates: Adverse Events

Some significant updates were made to the BC Immunization Manual, [Part 3 – Management of Anaphylaxis in a Non-Hospital Setting](#) and [Part 5 – Adverse Events Following Immunizations](#). For a comprehensive list of the updates made, please refer to the [February 5, 2025 Administrative Circular: 2025:01](#).

Highlights include:

- Details related to the Serum Tryptase Testing as outlined in the previous newsletter item
- Updates to reporting criteria for local reactions to include Pain or Redness or Swelling that extends between two joints but not past either adjacent joint.
- Addition of new events: Kawasaki Disease, Thrombosis/Thromboembolism and Myocarditis and/or Pericarditis

In addition, the Communicable Disease Manual, Chapter 6: [Surveillance of Reportable Conditions](#) now includes a new document [Data Elements Collected for Adverse Events Following Immunization](#), which includes the Minimum Dataset and Times for AEFI reporting.

Immunization Communication Course

BCCDC Immunization Program is pleased to present a new BCCDC [Immunization Communication Course](#) ([Course #35304](#) on PHSA LearningHub):

- This new course replaces the old BCCDC Immunization Communication Training course #19653, which is no longer searchable.
- This new course is based on the [BCCDC Immunization Communication Tool](#) (ICT) 2021 and includes some updates.
- Immunizers are encouraged to take this course as a refresher or as part of their orientation to immunization work.



Questions?

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

- Clinical Immunization Questions: ImmunizationProgram@interiorhealth.ca
- Biological Vaccine Product Questions: Vaccines@interiorhealth.ca

Let us know if you have any requests or suggestions for future newsletter content

Follow us on social media!

