INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA

2020-2021 COVID-19 Immunization Orientation

FNIHB – AB Region

Indigenous Services Canada | Services aux Autochtones Canada

Canada

Reference

- The majority of the information in this PowerPoint was taken directly from the 2020-2021 COVID-19 Immunization Orientation presentation by Alberta Health Services on December 18th, 2020.

- The information has been updated as of January 5th, 2021.

- Please make sure you check the Alberta Health Services website for the Biological Product Information pages updates on a regular basis.

- https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17314.aspx

Immunization Education:

- Educational requirements need to be determined to create a minimum requirement to provide safe and quality care. All regulated healthcare professionals (HCPs) are accountable to understand their scope and role.
- HCPs should administer the COVID-19 vaccine if they can do so competently (with knowledge and skill) and safely.
- Attending this education session provides a foundation for vaccine immunization; however, there are other areas such as donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Aseptic Technique, Infection, Prevention and Control practices (IPC) and Immunization Certification that contribute to gaining knowledge and skill to deliver the vaccine safely.
- If you have any education questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your education team.

What is COVID-19?

- Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses.

- Some coronaviruses cause respiratory illness in people, ranging from a mild common cold to severe pneumonia. Other coronaviruses cause illness in animals only. Rarely animal coronaviruses can infect people and these can spread from person to person through close contact.

- COVID-19 is what is called a novel coronavirus. Novel coronaviruses are new strains of the virus that have not been previously identified in humans.

What is COVID-19?

- Due to it being a novel virus there is no herd immunity and there are no specific treatments.

- Different treatments are being trialed and more information about this virus and how it affects people everyday, including long term effects following infection are being investigated.

- Vaccines are being developed and are at various stages of approval around the world.

- COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the province, posing a serious risk to public health and the healthcare system.

Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19

- Common – fever, new cough or worsening chronic cough, sore throat, runny nose.
- Additional – stuffy nose, painful swallowing, headache, chills, muscle/joint aches, fatigue or severe exhaustion, GI symptoms, loss or sense of smell or taste, conjunctivitis.

How serious is COVID-19?

- New cases are reported daily across Canada, increasing hospitalizations and ICU admissions.

- Some individuals are at higher risk of developing complications from COVID-19, including:
  - Seniors
  - Adults with existing chronic health conditions

How is COVID-19 spread?

- The virus is spread mainly from person-to-person through coughing or sneezing (droplet spread).
  - The droplets are propelled about 3 feet through the air

- People may also become infected by touching an object or a surface that has the COVID-19 virus on it and then touching their mouth, eyes or nose.

COVID-19 Incubation

- Median incubation period is estimated at 5-6 days from exposure to onset.

- Most people (97.5%) develop symptoms within 11.5 days

COVID-19 Infectivity

- People infected with COVID-19 can spread the disease to others while they have symptoms and sometimes before they know they are ill. A person may be infectious for two days before showing symptoms.

- Some people can be infected but have no symptoms.
  – These individuals can spread the virus to others

- This is important information for those caring for others, such as parents and all health care workers.

Treatment of COVID-19

Treatment will vary depending on severity of disease.

Some Albertans will be able to stay home and manage symptoms with comfort measures such as:

- rest
- analgesics
- fluids
- time

Other Albertans will require care in an acute care facility, perhaps in an Intensive Care Unit.

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Products

- Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are Messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines.

- mRNA vaccines use our cells to make a protein that will trigger an immune response without using the live virus that causes COVID-19. Once triggered, our body then makes antibodies. These antibodies protect us from being infected if the real virus does enter our body in the future.

- ‘RNA’ stands for ribonucleic acid, which is a molecule that provides cells with instructions for making proteins. mRNA vaccines contain the genetic instructions for making the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. This protein is found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19.

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Products (cont'd)

- When a person is given the vaccine, their cells will read the genetic instructions like a recipe and produce the spike protein. After the protein piece is made, the cell breaks down the instructions and gets rid of them.

- The cell then displays the protein piece on its surface. Our immune system recognizes that the protein doesn't belong there and begins building an immune response and making antibodies.

COVID-19 Vaccine - Effectiveness

Pfizer

- The phase 3 study demonstrated a vaccine efficacy of 95%, with consistent efficacy across age, gender, and ethnicity. The observed efficacy in adults over 65 years of age was 94%.

Moderna

- The phase 3 study demonstrated a vaccine efficacy of 94.1%, with consistent efficacy across age, gender, and ethnicity. The observed efficacy in adults over 65 years of age was 86.4%.

Universal COVID-19 Immunization Program

- Alberta Health (AH) will be making COVID-19 vaccine available:

  – Currently all adult (16 yrs and older) Albertans will be eligible for a vaccine at no charge.

  – Using phased-in approach.

COVID-19 Immunization Program in Alberta

Alberta Health Services (AHS) is coordinating the delivery and administration of the COVID-19 Immunization Program in collaboration with Alberta Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

COVID-19 vaccine will be offered to Albertans in a staged approach.

- The staged approach is based on vaccine availability, vaccine portability, system sustainability, and risk of infection.
- As with all vaccines in Alberta, receiving immunization with COVID-19 vaccine is an **individual's choice.**
- Immunization with these safe and effective vaccines is recommended.

COVID-19 Vaccines

	COVID-19 Ultra Frozen (Pfizer)	COVID-19 Frozen (Moderna)
Dosage/Route	0.3 mL	0.5 mL
Packaging	Multi-dose: 2 mL vial (5 doses)	Multi-dose: 10 doses vial
Diluent	Yes	No
Eligibility	This vaccine is being offered in a staged approach, please follow operational guidelines to assess eligibility	This vaccine is being offered in a staged approach, please follow operational guidelines to assess eligibility
Indication	Albertans 16 years of age and older	Albertans 18 years of age and older
Ingredients	• mRNA (new technology) – nucleoside-modified mRNA (modRNA) platform • formulated in lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) • no adjuvants or preservatives	• mRNA (new technology) – nucleoside-modified mRNA (modRNA) platform • formulated in lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) • no adjuvants, preservatives and antibiotics
Schedule	2 doses 21 to 28 days apart	2 doses 21 to 28 days apart

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Product Dosing

- 2 doses
  - Dose 1 – day 0
  - Dose 2 – day 21 to day 28

Notes:

- Minimum spacing between doses is 19 days.
- Recommended spacing between doses is 21 to 28 days.
- If administration of the second dose is delayed, the second dose should be provided as soon as possible. Currently, no data on a maximum interval between doses or on medium or long-term efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines are available. In general, regardless of the time between doses, interruption of a vaccine series does not require restarting the series.

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Product Dosing

- 2 doses:
  - Dose 1 – day 0
  - Dose 2 – day 21 to day 28

Notes:

- Minimum spacing between doses is 21 days.
- Recommended spacing between doses is 21 to 28 days.
- If administration of the second dose is delayed, the second dose should be provided as soon as possible. Currently, no data on a maximum interval between doses or on medium or long-term efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines are available. In general, regardless of the time between doses, interruption of a vaccine series does not require restarting the series.

COVID-19 Vaccine Interchangeability

- Currently, no data exists on the interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines.

- The vaccine series should be completed with the same COVID-19 vaccine product.

Return Visit – Second Dose

- Indicate date range to return for second dose of vaccine on the COVID-19 Care After with Immunization Record and provide the form to the client. Client may already have appointment for second dose.

- Plan the procedure for the delivery of the second dose of the vaccine in your community. (recommended interval 21 to 28 days to create alignment between COVID-19 vaccine products).

Pregnancy

- The safety and efficacy of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in pregnant women has not yet been established.
- COVID-19 vaccine should not be offered to individuals until after completion of pregnancy.
    - However, a complete series of COVID-19 vaccine may be offered in consultation with the individual's physician to pregnant individuals in the eligible group if a risk assessment deems that the benefits outweigh the potential risks for the individual and the fetus/infant, and if informed consent includes discussion about the absence of evidence on the use of COVID-19 vaccine in this population.
- It would be prudent to delay pregnancy by 28 days or more after the administration of the complete two-dose vaccine series of an mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine

Breastfeeding

- The safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccine in breastfeeding women has not yet been established.

- However, a complete series of COVID-19 vaccine may be offered in consultation with the individual's physician breastfeeding individuals in the eligible group if a risk assessment deems that the benefits outweigh the potential risks for the individual and the fetus/infant, and if informed consent includes discussion about the absence of evidence on the use of COVID-19 vaccine in this population.

Reactions to COVID mRNA Vaccine

Vaccine	COVID-19 Ultra Frozen (Pfizer)	COVID-19 Frozen (Moderna)
Common reactions	• Pain, redness or swelling at injection site • Chills, fever • Fatigue • Headache, myalgia, arthralgia • Vomiting • Diarrhea	• Pain, redness or swelling at injection site • Chills, fever • Fatigue • Headache, myalgia, arthralgia • Nausea, vomiting • Lymphadenopathy
Rare reactions	• Lymphadenopathy • Anaphylaxis	• Facial swelling • Anaphylaxis
As with any immunization, unexpected or unusual side effects can occur. Refer to product monograph for more detailed information.		

Reporting of Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI)

- An adverse event following immunization (AEFI) is defined as a serious or unexpected event temporally associated with immunization.

- AEFI reporting will continue to follow the standard procedure. Please call the FNIHB CDC team if you have any concerns.

AEFI Reporting (cont'd)

- Severe reactions (anaphylaxis and death) should be reported within 24 hours and all other reactions within 3 days to:

  Medical Officer of Health (MOH) at (780) 218-9929.

- "Reportable AEFIs" are reported to Alberta Health, and in turn to the National Surveillance Program.

Active Surveillance

- Some of the COVID-19 vaccines being used have been developed using new technology.
- Due to the centralized follow up of AEFIs in the province, Health Canada has asked Alberta to participate in active surveillance to provide closer monitoring of all symptoms vaccine recipients may experience.
- This will occur via the Canadian National Vaccine Safety Network (CANVAS) and Health Link. Details of implementation are being determined.

Contraindications to COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines

mRNA COVID-19 vaccine should not be administered to individuals who:

- **Pfizer** COVID-19 Vaccine: less than 16 years of age
- **Moderna** COVID-19 Vaccine: less than 18 years of age

- Have had an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine

- Have a known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine
  - One non-medicinal ingredient in the vaccine known to cause type 1 hypersensitivity reactions is polyethylene glycol (PEG). This potential allergen may be found in bowel preparation products for colonoscopy, laxatives, cough syrup, cosmetics, skin products and some food and drinks.

Precautions to COVID-19 Vaccine

- Individuals who have had a serious allergic reaction to another vaccine, drug or food should talk to their health care provider before receiving the vaccine.

- Individuals receiving anticoagulant therapy or those with a bleeding disorder that would contraindicate intramuscular injection should not be given the vaccine unless the potential benefit clearly outweighs the risk of administration.

- Administration should be postponed in individuals suffering from acute severe febrile illness.

Precautions to COVID-19 Vaccine (cont'd)

- Timing of administration and potential interference between COVID-19 vaccine and monoclonal products (eg Humira) are currently unknown. Medical consultation with primary care physician is advised.
- COVID-19 vaccine should not be offered to populations who are immunosuppressed due to disease or treatment or those with an auto-immune disorder (eg Lupus, Rheumatoid Arthritis, etc.) until further evidence is available as there is a lack of evidence on efficacy and safety in this group.
  - However, a complete series of COVID-19 vaccine may be offered to eligible individuals in this population if a risk assessment deems the benefits outweigh the potential risks for the individual, and if informed consent includes discussion about the absence of evidence on the use of COVID-19 vaccine in this population. **Medical consultation with primary care physician is advised.**
  - **Pre-screening of clients to look for pre-existing conditions will be a good way of preparing for potential precautions.**

Vaccine Deferral

- In the absence of evidence, COVID-19 vaccines should not be given simultaneously with other live or inactivated vaccines due to the potential for immune interference and the need to be able to monitor for potential symptoms of COVID-19 disease and COVID-19 vaccine adverse events without potential confounding symptoms from adverse events following other vaccines.

- If a COVID-19 vaccine is inadvertently administered at the same time as another vaccine, neither dose should be repeated.

Vaccine Deferral (cont'd)

- In the absence of evidence, it would be prudent to wait for a period of at least 28 days between the administration of the complete two-dose schedule of COVID-19 vaccine and the administration of another vaccine (except in the case where another vaccine is required for post-exposure prophylaxis).

- In the absence of evidence, it would be prudent to wait for a period of at least 14 days after the administration of another vaccine before administrating a COVID-19 vaccine.

Fit to Immunize Assessment

The immunizer will:

- Assess the need for immunization
- Confirm the client has not received a dose of COVID-19 vaccine previously, or if second dose is within minimum or maximum spacing
- Complete a “fit to immunize” assessment
  - health status today
  - history of allergies
  - previous reactions
  - chronic illness/medications
  - pregnancy/lactation

Informed Consent

- Clients must give informed consent before immunization (Consent for COVID-19 Immunization Form)
- Prior to immunizing the immunizer must:
  - Determine that the client is eligible (based on current phase and or eligibility requirements)
  - Review the disease being prevented
  - Review antigen
  - Discuss:
    - risks and benefits of getting the vaccine and not getting the vaccine
    - side effects and after care
    - how the vaccine is given
  - Provide the opportunity to ask questions
  - Affirm verbal consent

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

- Can be stored in a freezer between -80°C and -60°C storage for up to 6 months.

- Prior to dilution, thawed vials can be stored:
  – in the refrigerator at +2°C to +8°C for up to 5 days
  – at room temperature for no more than 2 hours

- **Do not refreeze.**

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Storage & Handling (cont'd)

- After thawing and mixing with 0.9% sodium chloride diluent, the vaccine can be stored at +2°C to +25°C for up to 6 hours.

- During storage, minimize exposure to room light, and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light.

- After dilution, the vaccine vials can be handled in room light conditions.

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Management

- All multi-dose vials to be thawed in the fridge must be marked with the **date and time** of removal from freezer.
  - Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine must be used within 5 days of removal from freezer.

- All multi-dose vials must be marked with the **date and time** of dilution.
  - Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine must be used within 6 hours of dilution.

- Check expiry date, dilution date and dilution time prior to administration.

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Management (cont'd)

- Communicate use of near expiry vials to other staff members, so the vaccine can be used before it expires, this becomes more important at the end of a clinic.

- Vaccine should be withdrawn from the vial by the immunizer administering the vaccine.

- **Do not pre-draw vaccine.**

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine - Preparation

See document *Preparation of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine*

- Strict adherence to aseptic techniques must be followed.

- The Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine multiple dose vial contains a frozen suspension that does not contain preservative and must be thawed and diluted prior to administration.

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Preparation (cont')

Thaw vaccine before use:

- The frozen vial contains 0.45 mL and will need to be thawed before dilution.

- Vials may be thawed in the refrigerator (+2°C to +8°C) or at room temperature (up to +25°C).
  - Thaw for 30 minutes at room temperature.
  - Thaw for 3 hours in the refrigerator; and allow the vial to come to room temperature before dilution.

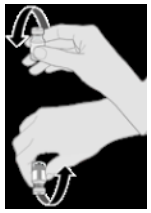
Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine – Preparation (cont'd)

- 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP is not packaged with the vaccine.
- Diluent can be stored at room temperature.
- Do not use bacteriostatic 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection or any other diluent.
- After dilution, the vial contains 5 doses of 0.3 mL.
- After dilution, the vaccine will be an off-white suspension. Inspect vials to confirm there are no particulates and no discolouration is observed.

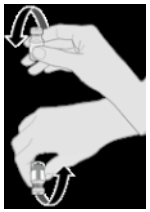
Note: Sodium Chloride diluent will be supplied in a 10 mL vial. This vial is SINGLE USE only and must be discarded after diluting ONE vial of COVID-19 vaccine. It **cannot** be used to dilute multiple vials of vaccine.

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine – Preparation (cont'd)

- Prior to dilution, ensure the vial is room temperature, invert gently 10 times to mix.
  - **Do NOT shake**



- Cleanse vial stopper with single-use antiseptic swab.
- Add 1.8 mL of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP into the vial using a 21 gauge or narrower needle.
- Equalize vial pressure before removing needle by withdrawing 1.8 mL of air.
- Gently invert vial 10 times to mix – do NOT shake.



Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine – Preparation (cont'd)

- Inspect the vial to confirm there are no particulates and no discoloration is observed.

- Record date and time of dilution on label.

- Store diluted vaccine between +2˚C to +25˚C for up to 6 hours.

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

- Thawed, **unpunctured** vials
  - can be stored at +2°C to +8°C for up to 30 days
  - may be stored at +8°C to 25°C for up to 12 hours

- Thawed, **punctured** vials (first dose is withdrawn)
  - can be stored at +2°C to +25°C for 6 hours
  - discard after 6 hours

- Do not refreeze after thawing
- Do not store on DRY ICE or below -40°C
- Protect from light

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

- Can be stored in a freezer between -25°C and -15°C

- Vaccine can be thawed in 2 ways:

  - From the freezer to room temperature (+15°C to +25°C)
    - thaw for 1 hour from frozen state.

  - From the freezer to a vaccine fridge at +2°C to +8°C
    - thaw for 2 hours and 30 minutes from frozen state.
    - let the vial stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before administering.

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Management

- All multi-dose vials to be thawed in the fridge must be marked with the **date and time** of removal from freezer.
  - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine must be used within 30 days of removal from freezer and stored in fridge at +2°C to +8°C

- All multi-dose vials must be marked with the **date and time** when thawed and stored at room temperature.
  - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine must be used within 12 hours if stored at room temperature

- All multi-dose vials must be marked with the **date and time** when **punctured**.
  - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine must be used within 6 hours if first dose is withdrawn

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Management (cont'd)

- Communicate use of near expiry vials to other staff members, so the vaccine can be used before it expires, this becomes more important at the end of a clinic.

- Vaccine should be withdrawn from the vial by the immunizer administering the vaccine.

- **Do not pre-draw vaccine**.

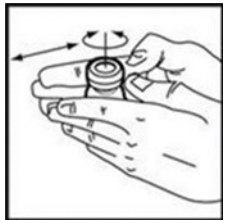
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine - Preparation

- Strict adherence to aseptic techniques must be followed.

- **<u>No reconstitution</u>** is required.

- The Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine multiple dose vial contains a frozen suspension that does not contain preservative and must be thawed prior to administration.
  - thaw as indicated in the Storage section on biological page

- Swirl vial gently after thawing and between each withdrawal.
- **Do Not Shake**



COVID-19 Vaccine Storage Summary

Vaccine	COVID-19 Ultra Frozen (Pfizer)	COVID-19 Frozen (Moderna)
Primary storage	-80°C to – 60°C for 6 mos	-25°C to -15°C until expiration date
Storage: Thawed, Undiluted (Pfizer) Unpunctured (Moderna)	+2°C to +8°C for 5 days AND/OR up to +25°C for 2 hours	+2°C to +8°C for 30 days AND/OR +8°C to +25°C for 12 hours
Diluent	Yes	No
Usage limit: Thawed, Diluted (Pfizer) Punctured (Moderna)	+2°C to +25°C for 6 hours	+2°C to +25°C for 6 hours
Do not shake		
Do not refreeze		
Protect from light		

Minimizing Vaccine Wastage

- When planning your vaccine clinics:
  - Pay attention to the number of open vials to minimize the risk of wastage of a partial vial (ie: the Moderna vaccine must be used within 6 hours from first puncture).
  - Unused portions of punctured vials cannot be stored overnight (or past 6 hours).
  - It is useful to have a list of ‘emergency’ people that can come to have their vaccine in order to minimize wastage with preference given to those in the priority group.

COVID-19 Vaccine Transport

- Can be transported in a thawed state at +2°C to +8°C in appropriate validated containers
- Temperature must be maintained and recorded during transport
- Full cartons or individual vials can be transported
- Total transportation time of thawed vaccine should not exceed 2 hrs
- Record transportation locations, dates and times, including the duration of time in transit
- **Pfizer vaccine:** time in transit in the thawed state should be considered part of the 5 days allowed for storage at +2°C to +8°C
- **Pfizer vaccine:** diluent should be transported at room temperature; ensure diluent does not freeze
- **Moderna vaccine:** time in transit in the thawed state should be considered part of the 30 days allowed for storage at +2°C to +8°C

COVID-19 Vaccine Transport (cont'd)

- Prevent contact with ice packs in packing containers
- Prevent movement in packing containers
- Keep vials upright in packing containers
- Packing containers should be secured in a vehicle so vaccine does not move around
- Care should be taken to minimize extra movement in the thawed state.
- Do not refreeze thawed product
- Do not transport vaccine at room temperature
- **Pfizer vaccine:** do not transport vials that have been diluted
- **Moderna vaccine:** do not transport vials that have been punctured

Cold Chain

- Vaccine fridges need to be monitored with a ‘temptale’ so that detailed information is available in the event of a cold chain break.
- The stability of the COVID vaccine is very dependent on the temperature. There should be a plan in place for storage of vaccine to maintain the temperature in the event of a power outage.
- It is important that the cold chain monitoring sheet is completed daily.

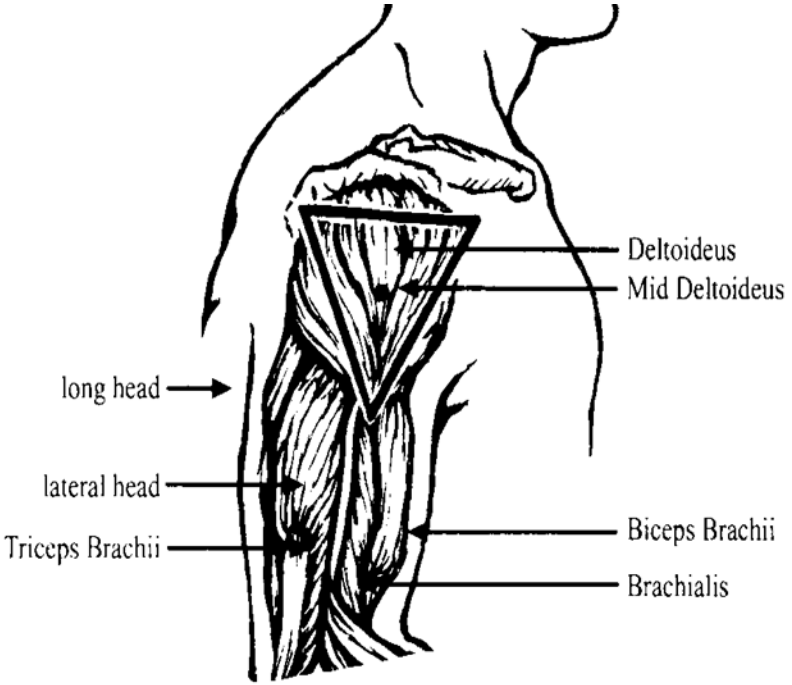
Administering COVID-19 Vaccine

- Expose and position the client's limb for injection.
- Cleanse the injection site with a single-use antiseptic swab.
- Allow the site to dry for 10 - 15 seconds.
- Secure the injection site using the appropriate stabilization technique.
- Insert the needle at a 90º angle.
- Administer the vaccine with controlled pressure.
- Activate the safety engineered device.
- Discard the needle and syringe, and empty vaccine vials into an appropriate sharps container.
- Use a cotton ball and apply pressure to the injection site.
- Reinforce the 15 min wait period with the client or parent/guardian.

Intramuscular Injections

Adults

- 3 mL syringe
- 25G - 1” to 1½” needle depending on muscle mass and adipose tissue
- Insert at 90 degree angle
- Mid portion of deltoid



Deltoid Site

Limb Integrity

- Do not administer an immunizing agent in a limb that is likely to be affected by a lymphatic system problem, such as lymphedema or mastectomy with lymph node curettage.

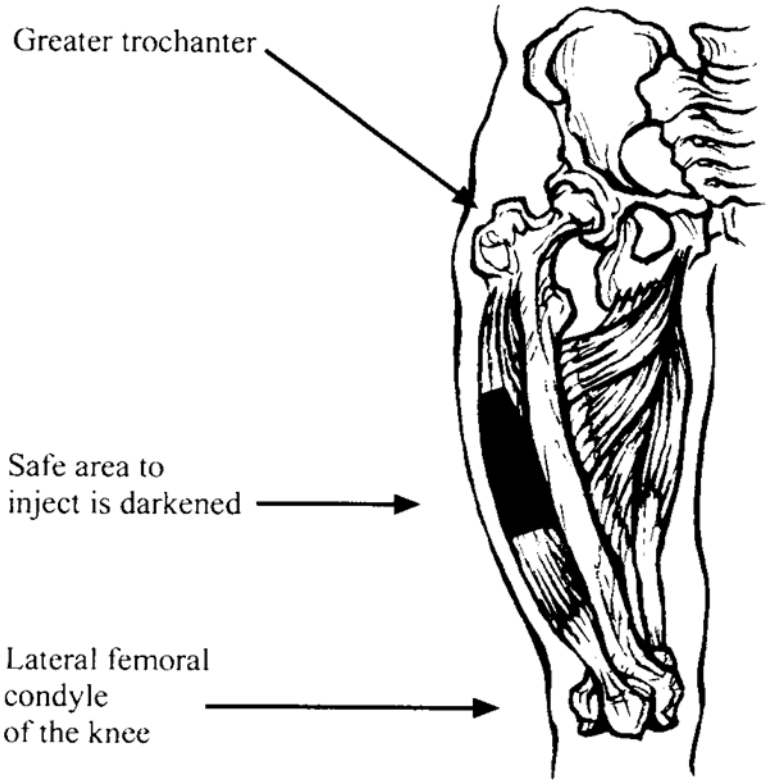
- Vastus lateralis is an alternative site.

- Individuals who present with A-V fistula (vascular shunt for hemodialysis) and those who have had mastectomies with lymph node curettage, axilla lymphadenectomies, limb paralysis and upper limb amputations may have short term or long term circulatory (e.g., lymphatic systems) implications that may impair vaccine absorption and antibody production.

Intramuscular Injections

Alternate adult site when deltoid is not suitable

- 3 mL syringe
- 25G 1” to 1½” needle depending on muscle mass and adipose tissue.
- Insert at 90 degree angle.
- Vastus lateralis - middle third of anterior thigh and slightly to lateral the midline.



Vastus Lateralis Site

Anaphylaxis

All clients are encouraged to wait for 15 minutes after immunization.

- For clients with any known anaphylactic allergies, extend this recommended wait period to 30 minutes.

- Have clients remain within the clinic area and return immediately for assessment if they feel unwell.

Ensure the FNIHB Anaphylaxis Guidelines module has been completed. (OneHealth) – an updated version will be available shortly

Infection Prevention & Control (IPC)

- IPC's mandate is to reduce the incidence of healthcare associated infections in patients, residents, and clients by:
  - process and outcome surveillance
  - outbreak identification and management
  - consultation and education
  - guideline, policy, and procedure development
  - research

- For more information go to the AHS IPC website at: https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page6410.aspx

COVID-19 Vaccine Recording

Information required to be recorded on all clients includes:

- Client demographic information
  - full name, personal health number, date of birth, gender, address including postal code
- Reason code for immunization
- Dose number
- Vaccine name & lot number
- Dosage administered
- Site of injection
- Route of administration
- Date of immunization
- Immunizer's first initial and last name, designation & signature

COVID-19 Vaccine Recording (cont'd)

- Vaccine recording should continue using the current processes of your centre (eg. Directly with Alberta Health Services or using a vendor such as CHIP).

- My understanding is that if you are using the CHIP platform to enter vaccine information, an education session will be made available to you shortly.

COVID-19 Immunization Reason Codes

Priority Ranking	Reason Code	Imm/ARI Code	Description *Refer to annual eligibility criteria
1	Health Care workers	03	Health Care Workers not including LTC/DSL
2	LTC/DSL Staff	44	Staff providing seniors care in Long Term Care and Designated Supportive Living Facilities
3	LTC/DSL Residents	22	Residents living in Long Term Care and Designated Supportive Living Facilities (all residents not just those residents who have a provincially funded bed).
4	Recommended Based on Advanced Age (e.g. 75+, 70+. 65+)	02	Age based reason codes – Note that the clients date of birth will be used to further break down age based reason codes
5	Other Congregate Care Living Environments	70	Residents living in congregate care living sites (e.g. senior lodges, non-senior lodges, group homes, corrections).
6	Essential Services Workers (does not include HCW's)	71	Workers that are critical to maintaining emergency services (e.g. police, firefighter, peace officer, environmental health officers, correction officers). Also, workers that are critical to maintaining health and safety (e.g. energy and utility workers, funeral service workers).-This definition is evolving and can be updated.
7	16 years to 64 years	72	Individuals 16 years to 64 years of age
The COVID-19 immunization program is being offered in a phased approach; please follow operational guidelines to assess eligibility. AHS (public health and workplace health and safety) will be the primary provider for the initial phases			

Choosing the reason for immunization code from the Priority List

- When completing documentation, include the immunization “reason code”. Start at the top of the priority list, and choose the first code that applies (e.g. If the client is a resident of a LTC facility and is 80+ years old, choose code #22 “LTC/DSL Residents” because it is higher on the list).

- There are discussions tomorrow regarding lodges and congregate sites whether they are to be included as LTC/DSL. More information to come.

Care After Immunization

- *COVID-19 Client Record and Aftercare Sheet*

- To be provided to every client receiving vaccine.

- Outlines expected side effects and aftercare for same.

- Will also serve as client's record of immunization.

Care After Immunization (cont'd)

Directions for individuals who may have vaccine side effects:

- If individuals experience side effects that are the same as COVID-19 symptoms, they must stay home and away from others (isolate) even if they think the symptoms are from the vaccine.

- If the side effects go away within 48 hours, isolation is not required and return to normal activities can occur. However, if isolation has been advised for other reasons, then isolation must continue.

Care After Immunization (cont'd)

- If the side effects last longer than 48 hours, individuals must maintain isolation. They are to contact the Health Centre or Nursing Station to make an appointment or arrangements for the COVID-19 test.

- If testing for COVID-19 does not occur, isolation must continue for 10 days from the start of the symptoms or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.

- Individuals who only experience a local reaction at site of injection do not need to stay home or isolate.

Available Documents

- Consent for COVID-19 Immunization
- COVID-19 Vaccine – mRNA Moderna – Frozen Vaccine Biological Page
- FNIHB AB Region – Routine Immunization Schedule
- COVID-19 Client Record and Aftercare Sheet
- Product Monograph - Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine
- AHS COVID-19 Vaccine Immunization Sheet
- Fit to Immunize Assessment

Questions?

References

2020-2021 COVID-19 Immunization Orientation. December 28, 2020. Retrieved from https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17314.aspx December 29, 2020.

Moderna (2020 December 23) Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2 vaccine, Suspension for intramuscular injection: *Product Monograph*. https://covid-vaccine.canada.ca/info/pdf/moderna-covid-19-vaccine-pm1.pdf

National Advisory Committee on Immunization (2020). Recommendations on the use of COVID-19 Vaccine(s). Ottawa, ON: Public Health Agency of Canada.

Pfizer-BioNTech (December 9, 2020) Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine). *Product Monograph.*