

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

First dose AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine available for grocery store staff in the VCH region

Date: April 29, 2021
To: Grocery store staff in Vancouver, Richmond, North Vancouver, and West Vancouver
From: VCH COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign Integrated Operating Committee
Cc: Dr. Patricia Daly, Vice-President, Public Health & Chief Medical Health Officer

Vancouver Coastal Health continues to implement the provincial COVID-19 Immunization Plan, which includes frontline and essential workers. In the VCH region, we continue to offer weekly allocations of mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) to people in these groups, with sequencing determined by the level of COVID-19 transmission in communities and workplaces. We anticipate inviting staff in grocery stores in the VCH region for these vaccines in late May or early June 2021.

This week, we also have an allocation of AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine available for frontline and essential workers **aged 30 and older (born in 1991 or earlier)** in the urban areas of the VCH region. This vaccine is highly effective at preventing both symptomatic COVID-19 infection as well as severe disease. Rare cases of serious blood clots and/or bleeding have been reported after receiving the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine. The risk is about 4 cases in 1,000,000 vaccinated people. While this side effect is very rare, it can be serious. Your risk of infection with COVID-19 is likely higher than this, but your risk of severe COVID-19 may be lower, particularly if you are a younger adult. Very few people 30-40 years of age have died from COVID-19 in British Columbia. Please see the *AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD Information Sheet* attached with this letter for more information.

Essential workers who choose not to receive an AstraZeneca vaccine will be offered either a Pfizer or Moderna vaccination in late May or early June 2021.

Eligibility:

If you are aged 30 or older (born in 1991 or earlier), you may attend one of the clinics listed below to receive a first dose of AstraZeneca vaccine against COVID-19. At this time, we are inviting grocery store staff who work in the store environment and interact with the public, such as cashiers, stockers, and meal prep staff, to clinics. Clinic locations, hours, and a link for booking appointments are below – you may attend any one of the clinics listed in this letter. This letter is not transferrable. Vaccine doses have been allocated for your staff only; do not share the link with others who are not members of your staff as they will be turned away at the clinic.

Please note: Second doses will be offered 16 weeks from the first dose based on provincial and national [recommendations](#). Data from jurisdictions around the world shows one dose of vaccine provides a high level of protection. When it's time to receive the second dose, your staff will be invited to receive it as they were for their first dose. It is important they retain the paper record of immunization to bring back to the clinic when it time for their second dose.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

A list of FAQs is attached. If you have further questions, or want to know more about COVID-19 vaccination in VCH, please visit VCH.ca. Please do not call the provincial booking line or try to contact the clinics directly.

ASTRAZENECA/COVISHIELD IMMUNIZATION CLINICS FOR GROCERY STORE STAFF APRIL 29 – MAY 2

[BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT HERE](#)

VANCOUVER

Vancouver Community College (north parking lot)

1155 East Broadway, Vancouver

Thursday, April 29	12:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 30	12:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 1	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday, May 2	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

UBC - Pharmaceutical Sciences Building

2405 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver

Friday, April 30	12:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 1	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday, May 2	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

RICHMOND

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

8771 Lansdowne Rd, Richmond

Saturday, May 1	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday, May 2	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Richmond River Rock (The Show Theatre)

8811 River Rd., Richmond

Sunday, May 2	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
---------------	-----------------

NORTH SHORE

North Vancouver Test Collection Site

ICBC Capilano Claims Centre, 255 Lloyd Ave., North Vancouver

Thursday, April 29	2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday, May 2	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

West Vancouver Community Centre

2121 Marine Dr., West Vancouver

Thursday, April 29	2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Friday, April 30	2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 1	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday, May 2	9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE ATTENDING THE CLINIC:

- The AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine will be offered at this clinic. If you prefer a different vaccine, it will be offered at a later date.
- This vaccine is recommended for those aged 30 and up (born in 1991 or earlier).
- Please do not attend the clinic if you are feeling unwell, experiencing COVID-like symptoms, or if you have been asked by Public Health to self-isolate.
- Come alone, to assist with COVID-19 safety protocols. Physical distancing measures will be in place throughout, including while waiting in line.
- Please bring:
 - your driver's license (or other government issued photo ID)
 - Personal Health Number/BC Services Card, if you have one
 - Employee ID or recent paystub
- You will be provided with a medical mask and reminded to maintain physical distancing guidelines while at the clinic.
- After you receive your vaccination, please plan to stay on site for 15 minutes to ensure you experience no adverse effects, such as an allergic reaction.

Important reminder: Provincial orders and guidelines remain in place for everyone, even if you have received the vaccine.