

Pharmacist Access to Publicly Funded Vaccines

Authorized pharmacists may request the following publicly funded vaccines to administer to eligible B.C. residents. Please note that new/other vaccines not included in this table may be provided to pharmacies at the discretion of the health authority.

This document is intended to provide guidance on publicly funded vaccine ordering procedures only; for current information on who is eligible for a specific publicly funded vaccine, refer to the [BC Immunization Manual, Part 4 - Biological Products](#). Some vaccines may require serology prior to administration.

All publicly funded vaccines administered to those ≤ 19 years must be reported to the local health unit as soon as reasonably possible. NOTE: For regions which use Panorama (i.e., Island Health Authority, Interior Health Authority), such reporting occurs via IT systems interface, and paper reporting to public health is not required.

ROUTINE REQUESTS Can be routinely requested for eligible B.C. residents	CASE-BY-CASE REQUESTS Can be requested for eligible B.C. residents under the situations indicated below			
	Supplement to School-Based Programs¹	Post-exposure situations¹	During an outbreak (Multiple Dose Request)¹	Vaccination requested by client³
Influenza (seasonal) ⁴	Hepatitis A ²	✓	✓	✓
COVID-19 ⁴	Hepatitis B ²	✓	✓	✓
MMR	HPV (Nonavalent) ²	✓		✓
	Mpox/smallpox vaccine ²		✓	✓
Pneumococcal Polysaccharide (PPV23)	MMRV	✓	✓	✓
Td	Meningococcal B Conjugate		✓	
Tdap	Meningococcal C Conjugate		✓	✓
	Meningococcal Conjugate (Quadrivalent)	✓	✓	✓
	Polio			✓
	Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13)			✓
	Tdap/IPV (and/or other pertussis-containing vaccines)	✓		✓
	Varicella	✓	✓	✓

¹ See criteria definitions on page 2.

² Pharmacies may place orders for these vaccines routinely (i.e., prior to a specific patient request) if they provide services to high-risk clients for whom the vaccine is recommended.

³ As per [BC Immunization Manual](#) eligibility criteria

⁴ Pharmacies routinely order these publicly funded vaccines from pharmacy distributors, in lieu of public health, for direct distribution. However, in rare circumstances, pharmacies may request these vaccines from public health.

Criteria Definitions

<p>SUPPLEMENT TO SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS</p>	<p>A pharmacy may request vaccines for an eligible patient who is unwilling/unable to participate in a school-based immunization program. These vaccines are routinely offered in grades 6 and 9. In general, individuals who missed being immunized on the routine schedule remain eligible for indicated vaccines and these should be offered at opportune encounters with an immunization service provider. In some instances, these vaccines will no longer be indicated beyond a certain age. In other instances, the individual remains eligible for the vaccine, however the recommended product may change depending on the individual’s age.</p> <p>See Part 4-Biological Products for vaccine eligibility and recommended product/schedule.</p>
<p>POST EXPOSURE</p>	<p>Local health units may provide these vaccines to a pharmacy on an as-needed basis when recommended by the Medical Health Officer for a specific post-exposure situation and when the pharmacist can administer the vaccine in the timeliest manner.</p>
<p>REQUESTS VACCINATION BY A PHARMACIST</p>	<p>A pharmacy may request vaccines for administration to a patient who requests vaccination services from a pharmacist.</p> <p>A pharmacy may place orders for these vaccines routinely (i.e., prior to a specific patient request) if they provide services to high-risk clients for whom these vaccines are recommended.</p>
<p>OUTBREAK CONTROL (MULTIPLE DOSE REQUEST)</p>	<p>Local health units may provide these vaccines to a pharmacy to assist in community-based vaccination under direction of the Medical Health Officer.</p> <p>NOTE: In general, pharmacists are recommended to only use vaccines obtained from the public supply when administering an immunization to an eligible B.C. resident within any publicly funded program. However, in situations where there is an outbreak or during a time-sensitive campaign (e.g., Hepatitis A post-exposure prophylaxis), public health may request community pharmacists to support such emergent issues by using available private supply and re-stocking product with publicly funded vaccines.</p>