

COVID-19 UPDATES

Online immunization record submission

Individuals who have received COVID-19 immunizations outside of Alberta can now submit that information through a secure, online portal at ahs.ca/vaccineregistry.

People can submit out-of-province immunization records for themselves or their children under 18 to be added to their health records.

If someone is unable to access the portal, they can bring a copy of the immunization record to an Alberta Health Services Public Health Clinic.

AHS will review submissions and verified submission information will be available via [MyHealth Records](#) within two to three weeks. Only doses of vaccines considered acceptable by Alberta Health and given at appropriate intervals will be entered as valid in a person's record.

Drop-in immunization locations

This weekend, anyone 12 and over can receive their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine at two [drop-in locations](#) in the northeast.

Made possible by the Government of Alberta, AHS, Calgary East Zone Newcomers Collaborative and the City of Calgary, the drop-in clinic locations are:

- Somali Canadian Society of Calgary (3940 29th St. N.E.) on Saturday, June 26 from noon to 7 p.m.
- Dashmesh Culture Centre (135 Gurdwara Sahib Blvd. N.E.) on Sunday, June 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

AHS is offering no-appointment first doses at the Crossroads Community Association hall (1803 14th Ave. N.E.) on Tuesday, June 29, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

AHS also offers [no appointment](#) first doses during the week, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Family Care Clinic, East Calgary Health Centre (4715 Eighth Ave. S.E.) until further notice.

Long COVID-19 recovery resources

People struggling with lingering COVID-19 symptoms can now access information on how to connect with in-person, phone and online resources on:

- [MyHealth.Alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca)
- [Getting Healthy after COVID-19](#) (AHS)

Resources for patients include:

- A symptom self-management [guide](#) to help patients recover after COVID-19.
- General information related to COVID-19 and seniors/continuing care; mental and spiritual health; cancer; and expectant and new parents.

AHS also has [resources](#) for health professionals that include:

- Care pathways and toolkits
- A post-COVID-19 rehabilitation and functional screening and assessment [tool](#) to help providers determine what rehabilitation supports may be required moving forward

Email phc@ahs.ca if you would like support with pathways or access to AHS resources.

Second dose expansion, interchangeability

Alberta's COVID-19 second dose rollout [expanded](#) to Albertans who received a first dose at least 28 days ago, and those 18 and over can select a [different mRNA vaccine](#) than their first for a timely second dose.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization has advised that Pfizer and Moderna can be used [interchangeably](#) for second doses, and Alberta is following that approach. AHS has a [fact sheet](#) for health-care providers on the mixing of mRNA vaccines.

Albertans who received a first dose of Moderna or Pfizer:

- Can book through AHS's [online tool](#), by calling 811 or through [participating pharmacies](#) 28 days after their first dose
- Can select the same vaccine they received in their first dose or the alternate mRNA vaccine if 18 and over and the initial vaccine is not readily available at the preferred site or time
- Please note, youths 12-17 must receive the Pfizer vaccine as Moderna is not licensed for that age group

Albertans who received a first dose of AstraZeneca:

- Can book an appointment by calling 811 — they can no longer book the appointment through the online tool or a pharmacy — for a second dose of AstraZeneca or an mRNA vaccine
- Are advised to wait at least eight weeks before booking their second dose to ensure maximum effectiveness

19 to Zero virtual patient town hall

On Tuesday, June 29 from 7-8 p.m., Drs. Christine Luelo and Heather Scarlett-Ferguson will co-host a 19 to Zero town hall online for all Albertans who have questions about COVID-19.

Goals:

- Provide up-to-date information on public health guidelines, mandates and recommendations
- Answer questions about COVID-19 and immunizations
- Address community needs, available supports and follow-up plan

Please consider sharing the [registration link](#) and [poster](#) with your patients. They can submit questions to community@19toZero.ca.

Family physician vaccination clinics listed online

Albertans can now find out whether their family doctor is offering COVID-19 vaccination by visiting the Alberta Find a Doctor website.

More than 170 family doctors' offices provincewide have joined the community vaccination campaign, which allows patients to be immunized by their trusted health-care provider.

Finding out which clinics are offering COVID-19 immunization is simple:

- Patients can visit albertafindadoctor.ca and click on the COVID-19 vaccinations button, which allows them to search for vaccinating clinics on a map.
- Patients are asked to call the clinic directly to request an appointment.

The community clinic vaccination project is a partnership between the Alberta Medical Association, Primary Care Networks and Alberta Health. More than 170 clinics are currently registered with the program, and more are being added each week.

Family physicians, pharmacists joint statement

Pharmacists and family physicians are working together to put COVID-19 behind us.

The AMA, Alberta College of Family Physicians, Alberta Pharmacists' Association and PCNs released a [joint statement](#) on June 21 urging Albertans to get vaccinated and discuss any concerns with their trusted family physician or pharmacist.

For the public, the statement highlighted that:

- Vaccines are safe, effective and our best way out of the pandemic.
- Family physicians and pharmacists have been educating themselves on the COVID-19 vaccine. Because they also know your history, family and circumstances, they can make recommendations that are right for you.

- A very small number of individuals may be at risk for complications, but without vaccine protection, we know that even healthy Albertans are at risk of severe illness and death from this virus.
 - If you have questions or are feeling unsure about getting vaccinated, your trusted pharmacists and family physicians are always happy to discuss your concerns.
 - We are here to help you get past the pandemic.
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Quick links

Physician, pharmacist town hall

On Monday, June 28 at 7 p.m., join Dr. Deena Hinshaw in a virtual town hall for physicians and pharmacists to discuss the importance of immunization in COVID-19 control and the anticipated impact of vaccines on how we shift from a pandemic COVID-19 response to an endemic “living with COVID” approach. [Register](#).

COVID-19 vaccines during pregnancy (video resource)

19 to Zero has a [video primer](#) for health-care providers with Stephanie Elliott, epidemiologist, and Dr. Fiona Mattatall, OBGYN, discussing up-to-date recommendations on COVID-19 immunizations during pregnancy and lactation.

Long COVID webinar

On Wednesday, June 30 at noon, AHS is hosting a one-hour webinar on their efforts to meet the challenge of long COVID and available resources. It is open to clinicians with interest in long COVID, including those in primary care and continuing care. [Register](#).