

# Vaccine Safety Matters

## HOW VACCINES are MONITORED

Once a vaccine is approved for use, its safety is continually monitored through both active and passive surveillance systems.



### HERE'S HOW



If your client informs you of an adverse event following immunization (AEFI), determine if it meets reporting criteria.

**HOW?** Refer to [Part 5 of the BC Immunization Manual](#). If the AEFI is reportable, submit a completed [AEFI Case Report Form](#) to [public health](#).

### What is an Adverse Event?

An adverse event following immunization (AEFI) is any untoward medical occurrence following the administration of a vaccine which may or may not be caused by the vaccine.

[click here for more information.](#)

With each level (local, provincial, national and global), there is greater ability to detect any vaccine safety concerns.

Ability to detect vaccine safety signals



### LOCAL

A local Medical Health Officer or designate reviews the report and determines whether the client can proceed with future immunizations.



### PROVINCIAL

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) monitors reports from around the province.



### GLOBAL

The World Health Organization receives and reviews vaccine safety information from PHAC and many other countries.



### NATIONAL

The [Canadian Adverse Event Following Immunization Surveillance System \(CAEFISS\)](#) overseen by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) monitors reports from across Canada.

TOGETHER THESE PUBLIC HEALTH TEAMS KEEP A CAREFUL WATCH OVER THE SAFETY OF EACH VACCINE.



If vaccine safety concerns are found, there is further investigation and action is taken if needed.

The [Immunization Monitoring Program ACTIVE \(IMPACT\)](#) is a pediatric hospital-based national active surveillance network for adverse events following immunization in children.

[click here for more info.](#)

## The system works!

[CLICK HERE TO SEE SOME REAL LIFE EXAMPLES OF VACCINE MONITORING](#)