



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: March 10, 2021

Administrative Circular: 2021:09

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2: Immunization,
Part 4 – Biological Products**

Part 4 – Biological Products

COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine mRNA-1273 (Moderna)

- Axillary lymphadenopathy has been added under Adverse Events.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated March 2021
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated March 10, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination After Care Sheet

- The COVID-19 Vaccine After Care Sheet has been replaced with a more public-friendly version. The new COVID-19 Vaccination After Care Sheet is currently being translated into several languages.

Please remove page numbers: 1-2 dated March 2021
Please add new page numbers: 1-2 (no date)

Appendix E: Management of Biologicals

Guidance for Receiving and Handling the Moderna COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine

- An addendum to Appendix E – Management of Biologicals has been added for further guidance on receiving and handling the Moderna COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine.

Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated March 10, 2021

Page 1 of 2

Guidance for Receiving and Handling the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine (including dry ice procedures)

- The section Temperature Requirements for Shipping and Storage Upon Receipt of the Vaccine has been revised to include that the vaccine can be stored for up to 2 weeks -25°C to -15°C.
- A section on Cold Chain Maintenance has been added.
- A section has been added on thawing the vaccine.
- The Resources section has been updated to include additional resources.

Please remove page numbers: 1-11 dated December 23, 2020

Please add new page numbers: 1-12 dated March 10, 2021

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM
Medical Director
Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

Provincial Health Officer
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