

COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet

Information provided by Health Canada

WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an infection caused by the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). It is passed from an infected person who coughs, breathes, sings, or talks (droplets from the mouth).

It is possible to have no symptoms and still spread the COVID-19 infection (asymptomatic).

HOW DOES THE COVID-19 VACCINES PROTECT AGAINST THE VIRUS?

The vaccine works by presenting your body with something that looks like the infection so that your immune system can learn how to produce its own natural protection.

This natural protection prevents infection if you come in contact with an individual who has COVID-19.

WHO CAN RECEIVE THE VACCINE?

The Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is approved for individuals 12 years of age and up.

The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is approved for individuals 18 years of age and up.

A discussion with your primary healthcare provider can assist in the prevention of any complications from the vaccine.

HOW IS THE VACCINE ADMINISTERED?

The COVID-19 vaccine is administered via injection in two doses, given 21-28 days apart.

After receiving your first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, you will be provided with a follow up appointment for your second dose.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE VACCINE?

The most commonly reported side effects are pain at the injection site, tiredness, headache, fatigue, chills, joint pain, and mild fever.

These side effects typically subside after 1-2 days after injection.

MY SIDE EFFECTS AREN'T GOING AWAY. NOW WHAT?

If your side effects haven't subsided after a few days, contact your healthcare provider.

Contact emergency services if you experience any adverse reactions such as:

- Hives
- Swelling of the face/mouth
- High fever
- Serious drowsiness
- Convulsions or seizure
- Numbness/"pins and needles"

To register for the COVID-19 vaccine, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.

Take your shot! Get the vaccine.

