



ISLAND HEALTH MEDICAL STAFF BULLETIN

October 20, 2021

[BCCDC COVID-19 Case Reports](#)

	Today's New Cases	New Cases since October 13 (last bulletin)	Active Cases	Currently hospitalized (ICU)	Cumulative Cases	Total Deaths
BC	696	4,348	4,888	370(139)	199,534	2,092
Island Health	59	396	517	52(25)	10,044	84

** Data from BCCDC public dashboard**

[PHO/MHO News Release. BC COVID-19 Dashboard, BCCDC COVID-19 Canadian and Global Epidemiology](#)

Island Health dashboard for new cases:

- Oct 20: [2 North Island Cases, 32 Central Island Cases, 20 South Island](#)
- Oct 19: [6 North Island Cases, 24 Central Island Cases, 23 South Island](#)
- Oct 16-18: [16 North Island Cases, 80 Central Island Cases, 82 South Island](#)
- Oct 15: [5 North Island Cases, 32 Central Island Cases, 21 South Island](#)
- Oct 14: [4 North Island Cases, 22 Central Island Cases, 21 South Island](#)

COVID-19 Outbreaks:

- [Update: COVID-19 outbreak at Tofino General Hospital](#)

Island Health's outbreak response has identified one additional patient case related to the COVID-19 outbreak declared at Tofino General Hospital (TGH) on October 12.

Island Health region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) 1st Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 1st Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) 2nd Dose To Date
1,358,003	91.7%	91.4%	86.5%

COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccinations for Medical staff:

As a reminder, on September 13, 2021 the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) announced that all employees, medical staff and other service providers who work in identified care locations in the health sector will be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 26, 2021.

On October 14th, Dr. Bonnie Henry issued this [public health order](#). The order provides an opportunity for current medical staff who are not yet vaccinated to continue working from October 26, 2021, onward, if they receive their first dose by no later than October 25, 2021, as follows:

- You must receive Dose 1 by no later than October 25, 2021;
- You must receive Dose 2 between 28-35 days after receipt of Dose 1 to remain eligible to work;
- You must continue to follow preventive measures (wearing a medical mask at work except if consuming food or a beverage), until you are 7 days past receipt of Dose 2 of vaccine.

Unless you are vaccinated as required under the PHO Order, or you have made a medical [exemption request to the public health order](#) that has been confirmed as approved or pending, you will not be able to provide services with Island Health from October 26, 2021, onward.

- [**Hospitalized Patient COVID-19 Vaccination Procedure**](#)
This procedure clarifies providing COVID-19 vaccinations to eligible inpatients in acute care facilities. This is only for RJH, VGH, SPH, CDH, NRGH, WCGH, CVH AND CRH Island Health acute care facilities.
- [**Updated: Guidance Document on the Management of Inadvertent Vaccine Errors**](#)
This guidance document goes into details on what to do if a COVID-19 vaccine is administered incorrectly, how to report it and how to prevent it from happening again. Vaccine administration errors can include wrong injection sites on the body, patients younger than approved (updated to 12 year olds being approved), two doses given too close together, higher dose than authorized and more.

COVID-19 Updates:

- [**Point-of-Care-Risk Assessment \(PCRA\)**](#)
This infographic was updated to remove physical distancing and quarantine requirements.
- [**COVID-19 Health-Care Worker Self-Check and Safety Checklist**](#)
This checklist is updated to remove physical distancing and quarantine requirements. The checklist is to help health-care workers check themselves for COVID-19 risk before each shift.
- [**Updated: Infection Prevention and Control Guidance on SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern**](#)
The guidance is updated to align with updated IPAC policies including mask use. Based on recent literature reviews, there is no evidence at this time that the modes of transmission of VoC differ from the original (non-variant) SARS-CoV-2.
- [**Updated: Tocilizumab injection or sarilumab injection for COVID-19: Use and Access**](#)
The “Tocilizumab injection or sarilumab injection for COVID-19: Use and Access” memo was updated to reflect new restriction wording. The use of tocilizumab injection or sarilumab injection is restricted to prescribing or approval by Intensivists or Infectious Disease physicians.
- [**Updated: Venous Thromboembolism \(VTE\) Prophylaxis for COVID-19**](#)
Since the current document still had the reference to the April 18 BC COVID-19 Therapeutics Committee (CTC) Recommendations, the content was updated to match the language in the current guideline.
- [**N95 Mask Fit Testing is once again an Annual requirement**](#)
Any test performed before Dec. 2021 will be considered expired. If you are in direct patient care, please make sure you are up to date.

- [Updated COVID-19 Therapy Guidance](#)

Updated guidance for: Antimicrobial and Immunomodulatory Therapy in Adult Patients with COVID-19, BCCDC Clinical Reference Group Recommendation: Therapies for COVID-19, BC COVID-19 Therapeutic Committee Report on Therapies for COVID-19: Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendations.

- [COVID-19 capacity limits lifting as two-dose vaccine requirements begin](#)

On Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021, full vaccination for everyone born in 2009 or earlier (12+) and presentation of your BC Vaccine Card will be required to access certain events, services and businesses.



COVID-19 Reports:

- [BCCDC COVID-19 LTC, AL & Independent Living Report](#)
- [Situation Report](#)
- [Geographic distribution of COVID-19 by local health area of case residence](#)

B.C. COVID-19 pandemic updates:

- [B.C. COVID-19 pandemic update | Oct 20](#)
- [B.C. COVID-19 pandemic update | Oct 19](#)

Spotlight:

- [Temporary inhalation-focused overdose prevention service to open on Pandora Avenue in Victoria](#)

An interim, publicly accessible inhalation-focused overdose prevention service will soon open in downtown Victoria, as part of ongoing efforts to respond to the drug poisoning public health emergency and save lives of people who use illicit substances.

- [Island Health Patient Sends Thanks to Hospital at Home Program in the Times Colonist](#)

If you were sick or injured and required acute treatment, and could choose where you received treatment, what place would you pick? Many people, like patient Nelly van Schagen, want treatment at home – and for Nelly, the Hospital at Home team made it happen.



Flu Shot 2021 Information:

- [Flu shot even more important this year](#)

The lack of a real flu season last year means it's more important to get your shot this year. Meanwhile the province has announced flu shots will be free for anyone over six months of age.

- [Roll up your sleeves, B.C.: Influenza immunization prevents serious illness, deaths](#)

People in British Columbia are being encouraged to protect themselves and those around them against influenza this year by getting a flu shot.

- [2021/22 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Eligibility](#)

This document explains who can receive the Influenza Vaccine for the 2021/22 season.



Newsletters:

- [RCME Community Program Newsletter Fall 2021](#)

The RCME Community Program is pleased to share the Fall issue of the RCME Community e-newsletter! This communication aims to highlight community implementation information, Rural Leadership Development Program information, Sechelt Medical Conference and much more.

- [Primary Care Update](#)

This week's Primary Care update includes information about the mandatory vaccination for healthcare workers & indoor capacity limits lifting, BCCDC list of qualified COVID-19 vaccines and much more.

Island Health End of Day & CEO Messages:

- [Pandemic Planning COVID-19 Update | Oct 19](#)
- [Pandemic Planning COVID-19 Update | Oct 15](#)

Upcoming Events & education opportunities:

- [Dr. Amanda Li | FPON Webinar: Immunization in Childhood Cancer \(space limited\)| Thursday October 21st 8:00am-9:00am](#)
- [PQI Fundamentals | Thursday October 21st 8:30am-12:30pm](#)

- [New CDH: Zoom info session for staff, medical staff and volunteers | Thursday October 21st 11:00am-12:00pm](#)
- [Explore@Four@Noon | Thursday October 21st 12:00-1:00pm](#)
- [Dr.Noah | Pediatric Resident Rounds: Updated Guidelines for Mild Asthma in Adolescent and Adults \(12+\) | Thursday October 21st 12:00-1:00pm](#)
- [Dr. Mark Elliott|Applications and Opportunities of Genetics in Nephrology | Friday October 22nd 7:30-8:30am](#)
- [Dr. Eric Partlow |Infection Rounds - Sepsis | Wednesday October 27th 12:00-1:00pm](#)
- [ICBC Injury Support Series: Back & Neck Pain \(Online\) | Wednesday October 27th 7:00pm-8:00pm](#)
- [Doctors of BC Physician Safety Webinar | Thursday October 28th 6:00pm-7:30pm](#)

All upcoming events found on the [Calendar of Events page](#).

If you wish to add a Calendar Event to your personal Outlook Calendar, click this button at the top of the calendar pop-up



The next email bulletin will occur **Wednesday October 27** unless additional updates are necessary. The [medical staff website](#) is updated Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

If you have any questions, please email MedStaffCommunications@viha.ca

Health, Wellness & Urgent Support Services available for medical staff

