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**Spotlight:**



- [International Women's Day March 8th #BreakTheBias](#)

This year's International Women's Day asks us to imagine a gender equal world free of stereotypes and discrimination - a world that is diverse, equitable and inclusive and where difference is valued and celebrated. To do this, it's important we all think about how we can #BreakTheBias – this year's International Women's Day theme.

- [Joint statement on International Women's Day](#)

Premier John Horgan and Grace Lore, Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity, have issued the following statement for International Women's Day.

- [Women in Medicine and Medical Leadership](#)

In recognition of International Women's Day on March 8, please see some profiles of the Women in Medicine at Island Health.

- [Dr. Deborah Braithwaite receives Order of British Columbia for her work with Victoria Hospice](#)

In a March 3rd ceremony at Government House, Victoria Hospice community physician Dr. Deborah Braithwaite was invested into the Order of British Columbia (OBC) for serving with "the greatest distinction and excellence" in the field of palliative care, "benefiting the people of British Columbia".

- [Specialist Memory Clinic \(SMC\) Announcement](#)

While referrals to the Specialist Memory Clinic (SMC) have been accepted for the last few years, Island Health is proud to announce that the SMC referral guidelines and decision support tools are now live on the Intranet and Pathways for clinicians.

- [Whole community team approach brings COVID-19 vaccines to rural and remote communities](#)

Whole community clinics are aimed at providing COVID-19 vaccines to all eligible people age five and older. Depending on the population size and demand in rural and remote communities, future COVID-19 vaccinations may be provided at pharmacies, regular public health clinics or at specific COVID-19 clinics.

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## COVID-19 Updates:

- [Updated: Masks in long-term care](#)

This BCCDC guidance on the Long Term Care and Assisted Living page is updated to indicate that all visitors to long-term care facilities must wear a medical mask. Masks are required both indoors and outdoors.

- [Updated: Order of the Provincial Health Officer: Residential Care COVID-19 Vaccination Status](#)

The Order of the Provincial Health Officer - Residential Care Vaccination Status, has been updated to include information in regards to the most recent vaccination requirements for employers, staff and residents in these facilities.

- [Updated: Clinical Immunization Guidelines for Special Patient Populations](#)  
These BCCDC guidelines include information on the recommendations and considerations, vaccine efficacy and safety, and the contraindications or exceptions for people with the following medical considerations.



**RAPID DIAGNOSTIC TEST**

- [Rapid tests for people 60+ at pharmacies](#)  
As of March 7, 2022, rapid antigen test kits are available through community pharmacies to people aged 60 and older.
- [Updated: Antimicrobial and Immunomodulatory Therapy in Adult Patients with COVID-19](#)  
This updated BCCDC guidance document addresses key therapeutic areas of concern for clinicians with recommendations sorted by severity of patient illness.

- [Order of the Provincial Health Officer: Health Professionals COVID-19 Vaccination Status Information and Preventive Measures](#)

On March 7, 2022 the Provincial Health Officer issued a new order. Under this new order, Colleges must verify the vaccine status of every registrant by March 31, 2022. This information can be reported to the Provincial Health Officer at an individual and aggregate level. The Order does not apply to any unregulated staff who may work in your office. This new order applies to all colleges and health professionals regulated under the Health Professions Act.

	Today's New Cases	New Cases since March 2 (last bulletin)	Currently hospitalized (ICU)	Cumulative Cases	Total Deaths
<b>BC</b>	274	2,202	405(58)	351,415	2929
<b>Island Health</b>	77	500	53(4)	32,271	227

\*\* Data from BCCDC public dashboard\*\*

**PHO/MHO News Release**

**BCCDC COVID-19 Canadian and Global Epidemiology**

## **BCCDC COVID-19 Case Reports**

**BC COVID-19 Dashboard:** [Click here](#) for a daily update on COVID-19 numbers for British Columbia, Vancouver Island and other health regions. \*Updates made after 4pm daily.

- [Island Health COVID-19 outbreak updates](#)  
Details can be found in [this updated list](#) of active outbreaks.

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## **COVID-19 Immunization Updates:**

- [Updated: Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2: Immunization, Part 4 – Biological Products](#)  
The BCCDC Communicable Disease Manual was updated on the Novavax vaccine product page to indicate that the vaccine can be pre-loaded into a syringe for up to 6 hours from first vial puncture.

- [COVID-19 vaccination for children age 5-11 FAQs for Community Providers](#)  
This BCCDC FAQs document provides questions and answers for community practitioners, when it comes to vaccinating youth ages 5 - 11 years old.

Island Health region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (5+) 2nd Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) Two Doses & Boosters To Date
1,943,197	93.1%	89.4%	60.9%

## Upcoming Events and Education:

- [Dermatology Grand Rounds| Med Safe: Adverse Drug Reactions Clinic| Thursday March 10, 12:00-13:00](#)
- [Human Safety Optimization Training | Thursday March 10, 17:30-19:30](#)
- [Primary Care Grand Rounds: COVID-19 Anti-Viral Medications and How to Prescribe Them | Thursday March 10, 18:30-19:30](#)
- [BC Renal|Dr. William Beaubien-Souligny|Assessing fluid status in critical care and AKI | Friday March 11, 07:30-08:30](#)
- [Medical Leader Town Hall | Wednesday March 16, 07:30-08:00](#)
- [Ethics Lunch & Learn | Wednesday March 16, 12:00-12:45](#)

- [Infection Rounds | Wednesday March 16, 12:00-1:00](#)

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



**All upcoming events found on the calendar of events page**

**[Calendar of Events page](#)**

*All upcoming events found on the [Calendar of Events page](#).*  
The next email bulletin will occur **March 16th** 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](mailto:MedStaffCommunications@viha.ca) :

## Health, Wellness & Urgent Support Services available for Medical Staff



Thank you for reading the Medical Staff Bulletin.

