

COVID-19

Immunization information for RMWB work sites

Who should get immunized for COVID-19?

Although some individuals are at greater risk for severe complications, without immunization, we have seen that even healthy Albertans are at risk of severe illness and even death from this virus.

Immunization is the single most effective means of protecting yourself, your loved ones and the greater community from COVID-19.

What are the benefits of getting immunized?

The COVID-19 vaccines trigger your immune system to recognize the virus, so if you come in contact with the real COVID-19 virus, you will be protected and ready to fight the virus.

Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine is an important step to prevent you from getting sick with the COVID-19 virus. The vaccine will help your body fight the COVID-19 virus and ease your symptoms if you do become sick.

Is the COVID-19 vaccine Safe?

Yes. All vaccines available in Canada have gone through the required testing and development stages for approval in Canada. Health Canada completed thorough scientific reviews on each vaccine. There are multiple systems in place to continue to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

What vaccine product am I going to get?

As of May 4, 2021, the Moderna vaccine is being offered to eligible individuals (18 years of age and older) who are at work camps / work sites in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo area. More information about vaccine products can be found online at www.alberta.ca/covid19-vaccine.

Are there side effects to the vaccine, and what are they?

Many people have no side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine. It's rare to have a serious side effect. If you do have side effects, they tend to be mild and go away in a few days.

Mild side effects are usually related to the injection site and include redness, warmth, swelling, bruising, itching, or feeling sore where you had the needle. Other side effects include experience fever, chills, aches, sore joints, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, feeling tired or unwell, or swollen lymph nodes. These side effects tend to be mild to moderate and go away quickly. Serious side effects after vaccination are very rare.

Do I need to isolate if I experience side effects from the vaccine?

If you only have redness, swelling, or soreness where you had the needle, you don't need to stay home and away from others.

If you have received the vaccine and develop symptoms that are the same as [COVID-19 symptoms](#) within the 24 hour period following your immunization, you need to isolate for that time

period. But if the symptoms resolve, you do not need to continue to isolate or be tested for COVID-19.

If your side effects start after 24 hours or last longer than 48 hours, stay home and contact Health Link at 811 or use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment for Albertans](https://www.ahs.ca/testing) (ahs.ca/testing) to make an appointment for a COVID-19 test. If you don't get tested for COVID-19, you must stay home for 10 days from the start of your symptoms or until you no longer have symptoms, whichever is longer.

Do I need an Alberta Health Care Card or pay to get the vaccine?

No. Staff on-hand will ensure that you are able to get the vaccine, even if you do not have an Alberta Health Care card. There is no cost associated with the vaccine.

Can I get immunized if I am from out of province?

Yes. Eligibility for COVID-19 vaccine for workers in the RMWB has been extended to include those who are from out of country or out of province.

If you are immunized with your first dose at a work site clinic, you will be eligible to receive the second dose either in Alberta or in another province, within the second dose recommended timeframe for that jurisdiction. In Alberta, second doses are being given within 16 weeks of receiving a first dose.

It is important that you keep a copy of your immunization record if you are from out of province so that you can bring it when you have your second dose. This will be provided to you at the time of your immunization.

Where can I get additional information about the COVID-19 vaccine?

Please visit <http://www.ahs.ca/COVIDvaccine> for more information.

If you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, you can speak to your healthcare provider or call Health Link 811.

Quick facts:

- Immunization is voluntary, but it is important to keep others around us safe. By getting the COVID-19 vaccine, you are protecting vulnerable people and helping our community develop widespread “herd immunity” to this infectious disease.
- Get immunized as soon as you can. Vaccines make your immune system stronger by building antibodies to help prevent and fight off diseases. It's much safer and more effective to get immunized than getting infected.
- You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. It does not contain the actual virus.
- Getting a vaccine doesn't mean the pandemic is over. Continue following public health measures even after you're vaccinated. You could still carry the virus and infect others who haven't been vaccinated.
- You can still test positive after getting vaccinated. The vaccine makes it less likely that you'll get severely sick, require hospitalization or die from COVID-19.

We're in this together.
We'll get through it together.

