

## Covid-19 Vaccine Update – ALL RESIDENTS

Date: September 24, 2021

Re: COVID-19 Vaccination Update

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**Important update regarding mandatory vaccinations for all Residents Doctors working in any Health Authority.**

***Residents who received one or more doses outside of BC- please report on your vaccination status by October 4, 2021 as outlined in the final paragraph below.***

As you may know, all staff, including Resident Doctors, in the health care sector must comply with the *Vaccination Status and Preventative Measures Orders* issued by the Provincial Health Officer on Sept. 2, 2021. **Residents working in long term care, assisted living and provincial mental health sites must be fully vaccinated by October 12, 2021.** Those who aren't fully vaccinated by Oct. 12, 2021 will not be able to work and will not be paid past Oct. 12, 2021.

On September 13, 2021, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) announced that all other health care workers, including Resident Doctors, will be required to be fully (two doses) vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 26, 2021. This expands the current requirement, which applies to workers in long-term care, assisted living for seniors and other residential care settings, to other care settings. The written PHO Order in support of this announcement, with specific details, is expected to be issued in the coming days.

Thank you to all who have already been vaccinated. Your actions have helped ensure the safety of your colleagues and patients, clients and residents. If you have questions about COVID-19 vaccines, detailed information is available on the BC Centre for Disease Control website at:

- [bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19](https://bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19)
- [bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19/vaccinations/healthcare-provider-q-a](https://bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19/vaccinations/healthcare-provider-q-a)

We understand that the PHO Order will require staff in acute care hospitals, home support and any staff who interact with clients, patients or residents in facility and community care settings such as adult day care, mental health services, home nursing care, nursing support services and laboratory and diagnostic facilities to receive a second vaccine dose on or before October 25, 2021. It is unknown at this time whether it will apply to other settings or to other services. If you work in any of these settings or services and are not yet vaccinated, it is important that you are vaccinated immediately in order to avoid employment consequences. The following deadlines apply:

**September 27, 2021** – Deadline for first dose of vaccine: If you have not received your first dose, please do so immediately. In order to meet the October 26, 2021 deadline, you must receive your first dose on or before Sept. 27, 2021.

**October 25, 2021** – Deadline for second dose of vaccine: After you have received your first dose, you must receive your second dose on or before October 25, 2021.

**October 26, 2021** – Both vaccine doses required to work: If you have not received your second dose before October 26, 2021, you will not be permitted to work, which will result in a loss of pay and other employment consequences.

**For those who have received vaccinations out of province, please update your vaccination information at: [www.immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca](http://www.immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca). Note that you will need an MSP/Personal Health number to update your record through this site, and if you are unable to update your record, you may send confirmation of your vaccination status by October 4, 2021 to: [hrteam@vch.ca](mailto:hrteam@vch.ca) with the subject line Resident Vaccination Record.**

