

An announcement from the BC Ministry of Health (May 4, 2021)

Pregnant persons now eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine as priority population

To all care providers of pregnant persons:

We are pleased to share that all pregnant persons are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine as a priority population through the provincial immunization program, Immunize BC and we would like to provide you with information to support you and your patients who come to you for advice and ongoing care.

This decision was based on international, Canadian and BC data that shows that pregnant persons have an increased risk of severe complications associated with infection from COVID19. This includes an increased risk of hospitalization and ICU admission, comparable to that of 55–59-year old persons in the general population. Based on data from the CANCOVID-Preg report 3, all pregnant persons are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination.

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada also supports the use of any COVID19 vaccine at any time in pregnancy.

Pregnant persons are strongly encouraged to discuss their decision to be vaccinated with their care providers; information to guide this discussion can be found here.

- [BCCDC - Vaccine Considerations](#)
- [SOGC - Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnancy](#)
- [The Society of Obstetrics & Gynaecologists - Pregnancy info](#)

To access a vaccination booking, pregnant persons are asked to register at gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated, then phone the Call Centre at 1-833-838-2323 and self-identify as being pregnant.

This will enable the pregnant person to book an appointment as online booking for pregnant persons is not available at this time. The importance of registering is to ensure the pregnant person is in the system and will be sent an invitation for their second dose at the appropriate time.

The Reproductive Infectious Diseases program physicians are available to provide consultations to care providers regarding COVID-19 and pregnancy, through BC Women's Hospital switchboard, 604-875-2161.

Thank you for your assistance and support. Sincerely,



Dr. Bonnie Henry, MD, MPH, FRCPC BC Provincial Health Officer



Dr. Deborah M. Money, MD, FRCSC Professor, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Medicine, & SPPH University of British Columbia Clinician Scientist, Women's Health Research Institute, BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre