



Message from
Dr. Laura McDougall
Senior Medical Officer of Health



COVID-19 Immunization Update

Please print and share with your teams as needed

Dear staff, physicians and volunteers,

Please find the enclosed COVID-19 immunization update. Information is also available on our [COVID-19 website](#), and will be consolidated in the regular Friday staff emails.

Today's Update

- **By the numbers**
- **Clarity about vaccine scheduling process and reminder to book online**
- **Ramping up immunizations in continuing care**
- **Continuing care spotlight**
- **Vaccine safety – did you know?**
- **Questions**

By the numbers

As of 3 p.m. January 7, 35,493 Albertans received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, including:

- 15,600+ Healthcare workers
- 11,600+ Long Term Care (LTC) and Designated Supportive Living (DSL) staff
- 8,300+ LTC/DSL residents

Clarity about immunization scheduling process and reminder to book online

We've been receiving many questions about the process for booking your immunization, and wanted to offer some clarification around scheduling.

A COVID-19 online booking tool is live and accessible to eligible healthcare workers, by invitation only, to book their COVID-19 immunization appointments online. Only eligible staff and physicians will receive an email with a unique link to book their appointments.

Starting **January 7**, staff who have received emails to book appointments online will also receive a text message, reminding them to go into their email to book their appointments.

If you choose to receive COVID-19 immunization, **please go in to book your appointments as soon as possible.** Thousands of staff are waiting to be immunized and we want to ensure that all available immunization appointments and vaccine doses are filled and used as quickly as possible.

The full list of current phases is available on the [Alberta Health website](#).

We ask anyone with an appointment to please honour it. No-shows and cancellations negatively impact our immunization efforts and could mean a coveted vaccination appointment goes unused.

Ramping up immunizations to continuing care residents

We continue to work closely with our partners in long term care and supportive living to ensure residents, who are at higher risk for severe outcomes of COVID-19, are immunized as quickly as possible.

We anticipate to have visited 80 per cent of facilities by January 19th and some zones expect to have completed their LTC/DSL sites as early as next week.

Continuing care spotlight

On Monday January 4, 200 doses of COVID-19 vaccine arrived at CapitalCare Lynnwood amongst great excitement, and some tears as well. By the end of the day, a total of 144 residents and 56 staff received their first dose of the Moderna vaccine and today, another 30 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine arrived, allowing for another 18 residents and 12 staff to be immunized.



RN Margery Ureta prepares the 200th dose at CapitalCare
Lynnwood continuing care centre in Edmonton

Vaccine safety – did you know?

All vaccines are thoroughly tested and must be shown to be safe and effective before they are approved for use. Find out more about how vaccines are developed by watching this [short video](#).

Have a question?

Visit ahs.ca/covidvaccine or alberta.ca/covid as more information becomes available. If you have a COVID-19 vaccine specific question that is not addressed here, please submit your question using this [online form](#).

Sincerely,

Dr. Laura McDougall

Senior Medical Officer of Health

