



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**
- **Update on Vaccine Supply and Booked Appointments**
- **Post Vaccine Information**
- **Continuing Care Spotlight**
- **Questions**

#### **By the numbers**

As of 3 p.m. January 18, more than 81,600 Albertans received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, including:

- 40,800+ Healthcare workers
- 24,800+ Long Term Care (LTC) and Designated Supportive Living (DSL) staff
- 24,600+ LTC/DSL residents

#### **Update on Vaccine Supply and Booked Appointments**

As announced by [Alberta Health](#) today (Jan. 18), due to the unexpected supply disruption the federal government announced last week, Alberta will have no more vaccine doses available to administer as first doses by the end of today or early tomorrow.

We are working to understand vaccine availability and the impact this may have on booked appointments. We will communicate directly with staff and physicians as soon as possible.

If and when anyone needs to have appointments rebooked they will be contacted by Health Link directly or will receive an automated call or text message directly with specific instructions on how to rebook. Please **DO NOT** call Health Link to rebook your appointment unless directly instructed to do so.

## Post Vaccine Information

Although it's rare to have a serious side effect after receiving the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, please ensure you call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

If you have side effects that are the same as COVID-19 symptoms, you must stay home and away from others (isolate), even if you think the side effects are from the vaccine.

- If the side effects go away within 48 hours, you don't have to keep isolating, and you can go back to your normal activities. If you've been told to isolate for other reasons, you must keep isolating.
- If the side effects last longer than 48 hours, stay home. Contact Health Link at 811 or do the COVID-19 Self-Assessment for Albertans 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.
- If you only have redness, swelling, or soreness where you had the needle, you don't need to stay home and away from others.

Additional post-vaccine information can be found on [MyHealth.Alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca).

## Continuing Care Spotlight

AHS hit a major milestone this weekend, completing first-dose COVID-19 immunizations to close to 50,000 eligible residents and staff of AHS and Contracted Operator continuing care facilities across Alberta.



Paulis & Elfrida Heinbergs, married 70 years and residents of Good Samaritan Society Pembina Village Long Term Care in Evansburg, were part of a major milestone, both receiving their first dose of COVID-19 immunization this past weekend.

**Have a Question?**

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

If you have any questions about the vaccine rollout, contact your supervisor or medical leader or see the [Staff FAQ](#). Additional information can be found on [ahs.ca/covidvaccine](https://ahs.ca/covidvaccine). If your specific question is not addressed, please email [AHSVaccineTaskforce@ahs.ca](mailto:AHSVaccineTaskforce@ahs.ca).

Sincerely,

**Dr. Laura McDougall**

Senior Medical Officer of Health



Healthy Albertans.  
Healthy Communities.  
Together.

