



## Covid-19 vaccine Spring Booster is not for everyone!



Since Monday, April 8, 2024, people in British Columbia have access to a free Spring COVID-19 vaccine booster to maintain and extend protection for themselves and their loved ones against serious illnesses from COVID-19. This booster dose is for individuals at risk of severe illness 6 months after their last Covid-19 vaccine.

The risk of severe disease after COVID-19 infection has decreased due to high vaccination coverage, decrease virulence of Omicron variant, and most people having been infected previously.

Each Covid-19 vaccine booster increases your immunity level, which may be important for those at highest absolute risk of harm. Advanced age remains the primary risk factor for severe disease.

Aligned with advice from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, B.C. health officials recommend the following people consider receiving an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine:

- adults 65 and older.
- **Indigenous adults 55 and older.**
- adult residents of long-term care homes and assisted-living facilities (including those awaiting placement).
- individuals six months and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised.

To find out if the Spring Covid-19 booster will be available in your community please connect with your **local NTC Nurse:**

- 250.724.3939 (Port Alberni Health Office)
- 250.725.3367 (Tofino office)

If not in community, **where can you access the Covid-19 Spring booster?**

- Your local **Public Health Unit** – Call 1 833 838 2323 to book an appointment or register at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/register>
- Your local **pharmacy** – Tofino, Epic and Gold River pharmacies will ask you to register through the link above.
- Port Alberni Shoppers Drug Mart on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue is offering the Covid-19 Spring boosters on Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Walk-ins only.