



JIBC

School of Health, Community & Social Justice
Health Sciences Division

Practice Education Immunization and Screening Requirements Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to be fully immunized against COVID-19 and provide proof of vaccination?

No, the COVID-19 vaccine mandate was lifted on July 26, 2024 for health care workers. However, COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for health care workers to reduce worker illness during periods of high SARS-CoV-2 circulation in the community and to reduce the transmission to vulnerable individuals receiving health care in hospital or community settings.

How do I find my immunization records?

You can access, download, and print immunization records through [Health Gateway](#). Find tips on locating immunization records that are not in Health Gateway on the [immunization records](#) page. Provide your immunization records to your physician or health care provider so they can complete your JIBC Immunization Checklist.

I can't find evidence of my vaccine history. How can I prove my immunity?

Book an appointment with your physician or health care provider. Serology (blood test) can be done to measure the levels of specific antibodies in your system to determine if you have immunity against a particular disease. If your serology results indicate low levels of immunity, additional vaccines are required.

I have completed the series of vaccines for hepatitis B. Do I need a serology test?

Yes, post-vaccination serology (blood test) is required at least one month after the last dose of hepatitis B vaccine. A documented serology with anti-HBs levels ≥ 10 IU/L done after the last dose of a complete vaccine series is considered to be protection for life.

What do I do if my hepatitis B serology results show anti-HBs levels < 10 IU/L?

If the test result shows your level is < 10 IU/L, you will require a second vaccine series and retest one month after the last dose of the second series. If anti-HBs remains < 10 IU/L after second vaccine series, you will be considered a non-responder and susceptible to hepatitis B virus. In this case, contact your program for the next steps.

Where can I get a TB skin test?

Speak with your physician, health care provider or local public health unit regarding scheduling TB Skin Test appointments.

What do I need to consider when scheduling a TB skin test?

A two-step Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST) is recommended. This involves four in-person clinic visits and may take up to four weeks to complete.

- Step 1:
 - Visit 1: The TST is planted (first injection).
 - Visit 2: The test is read 48 to 72 hours later.
- Step 2 (usually 1-3 weeks later):
 - Visit 3: The second TST is planted (second injection).
 - Visit 4: The second test is read 48 to 72 hours later.

What do I do if my TB skin test is positive?

If your TB skin test is positive, a health care professional will conduct a comprehensive TB assessment and possibly recommend a chest x-ray providing clearance for active TB.

What do I need to know about influenza?

Influenza (flu) is an acute infection of the respiratory system caused by the influenza virus. It is highly contagious and spreads primarily through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneeze, or talks. Transmission can also occur through contact with contaminated surfaces.

Health care providers who are infected with the flu can transmit the virus to patients even before symptoms appear. Individuals are typically contagious from approximately 24 hours prior to symptom onset and remain so for about 5–7 days after becoming ill.

The most effective way to prevent influenza is through vaccination, combined with additional preventive measures such as proper hand hygiene and appropriate coughing and sneezing etiquette. Immunization reduces the risk of health care providers contracting influenza and transmitting it to vulnerable patients.

BC's Influenza Control Policy requires all health authority employees, students, physicians and volunteers to **either receive the influenza vaccine or wear a surgical mask in patient care areas during flu season** (typically November to March). Patient care areas include all locations where care is delivered, such as health care facilities, patient homes, ambulances, and community settings.

The influenza vaccine in BC is typically available beginning in mid-October.