

### SITE APPLICABILITY:

VCH COVID-19 Immunization Clinics


### PURPOSE:

To set a standard regarding Aftercare Station requirements and duties.

### STANDARD:

- The role of the Aftercare clinician is to: actively monitor clients, assess any urgent clinical concerns that arise, and manage any initial adverse reactions (including anaphylaxis, anxiety, fainting, vomiting, etc).
- Each clinic has a minimum number of clinicians with initial anaphylaxis management within their autonomous scope of practice (currently: MD, NP, RN, RPN, LPN, and pharmacist) stationed in the Aftercare at all times. Each Aftercare must have a minimum of 2 clinicians and a maximum ratio of 20-30 clients per clinician. (1 clinician is acceptable if additional clinicians are within sight, hearing, and close physical distance of Aftercare).
- To avoid fatigue, clinicians will rotate through Aftercare (approximately every 60 min based on the needs of the clinic). Clinic leadership will schedule clinicians in Aftercare or may assign/rotate based on clinic need. Clinic leadership is responsible for ensuring that the minimum number of clinicians are always in Aftercare. Clinicians will not leave Aftercare unattended.
- When in Aftercare, clinicians must orient themselves to the station and check all clinical supplies, including:
  - Anaphylaxis kit: multiple ampoules of epinephrine (check expiry), syringes/needles, alcohol swabs, protocol, emergency documentation record
  - Stethoscope & Blood Pressure Cuff
  - Cot, blankets and/or pillows
  - Source of simple carbohydrates (e.g. juice, cookies, crackers, etc.)
  - Access to phone to dial 9-1-1 (e.g. a cell phone, or a phone through the Clinic Lead if a personal cellphone is not available). Ensure site name & address are easily accessible to provide paramedics.
- Clinicians must give full attention to Aftercare clients and not participate in other clinic activities or use cell phones, unless in an emergency situation.
- At frequent intervals, clinicians must walk through Aftercare to assess clients more closely. Clinicians are permitted to sit for short periods of time if they can observe all clients from their seat.
- If clients have not yet received Aftercare handouts, clinicians may provide these. *I'm COVID-19 Vaccinated* stickers may be available to offer clients and provide a good client engagement tool for closer assessments.
- For anaphylaxis, follow the protocols in [BCCDC Management of Anaphylaxis in a Non-Hospital Setting DST](#) (p. 11)\*

**Note:** This is a **controlled** document for VCH internal use. Any documents appearing in paper form should always be checked against the electronic version prior to use. The electronic version is always the current version.

	<b>Standard Operating Procedure</b> <b>COVID-19 Immunization Clinics:</b> <b>Aftercare Station Standard</b>	Doc. No.	D-00-16-30222
		Rev.:	00
		Rev. Date:	N/A

\* The protocol is identical to [Anaphylaxis: Initial Emergency Treatment by Nurses \(Adult and Pediatric\)](#).

- If CPR is required, perform hands-only and ensure both the client and clinicians continue to wear a surgical mask. Clients in this setting are considered low risk for COVID 19 as they have been pre-screened at entry.
- Clients are required to wait in Aftercare for a minimum of 15 minutes. Some clients may be advised to wait 30 minutes or longer as a precaution due to allergy history. See [VCH COVID 19 Vaccine Screening Checklist](#).
- Any adverse reaction that occurs when a client is in Aftercare must be documented in ImmBC.

APPROVALS			
Director	Director, Vancouver Inner City and Program Lead for Addictions Services		22 April 2021
Director (Community)	Director, Community and Family Health, Coastal Community of Care Regional Director, Public Health Program		22 April 2021
Executive Director	Executive Director, Primary Care and Chronic Disease Mgt., Richmond		23 April 2021
Professional Practice Director	Professional Practice Director, Vancouver Acute, VCH		27 April 2021
Regional Director	Regional Director, Communicable Disease Control		28 April 2021
DEVELOPERS			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice Initiatives Lead, Vancouver COVID-19 Immunization Clinics, Vancouver Community</li> <li>• Nursing Practice Initiatives Lead, Vancouver Community</li> </ul>		-
REVISION HISTORY			
Revision#	Description of Changes	Prepared by	Effective Date
00	Initial Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice Initiatives Lead, Vancouver COVID-19 Immunization Clinics, Vancouver Community</li> <li>• Nursing Practice Initiatives Lead, Vancouver Community</li> <li>• Regional Immunization CRN</li> <li>• Regional Immunization Lead</li> <li>• Coordinator, Regional Prevention Team</li> </ul>	29 April 2021

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