

Memorandum

Date: June 18, 2021

To: Immunization providers

From: Regional Immunization Team

Re: **COVID-19 Moderna Vaccine 14 dose/ U.S Labelled Product.**

Background

Beginning this week, Canada is receiving 7 million doses of Moderna from the United States. Of those, 945 thousand will be provided to BC over the next few weeks. While the previous lots of Moderna yielded 10 doses of 0.5 mL (per dose) per vial, the new formulation yields 14-15 doses per vial.

Situation

In the first two weeks of July, Pfizer shipment to the Province will be reduced. So in the weeks to come, we will have more Moderna at our clinic sites, than Pfizer vaccine.

New information about this product:

1. 15 doses can be obtained with low density volume (LDV) syringes.
2. Vials can be used for 24 hours following puncture, at room temperature or refrigerated.
3. The vial does not contain an expiry date. If needed, all clinic sites can access the corresponding lot numbers on line: modernacovid19global.com/ca/lots-expiry-en.pdf.

Actions

Moderna vaccine will be offered to the following:

1. First dose clients who are 18 years and older (turning 18 years of age within current calendar year).
2. Clients coming in for their second dose who received AstraZeneca/COVIDSHIELD as dose 1.
3. Clients coming in for their second dose of Moderna vaccine.

Pfizer should be reserved for dose 2 clients who received Pfizer as dose 1 and for youth age 12-17.

Storage and handling instructions

1. Frozen: Store (-25° to -15°C) until expiration date
2. Thaw each vial before use:
 - New: Room temperature (15° to 25°C) 1 hour and 30 minutes for 14 dose vial, or
 - Refrigerator (2° to 8°C) 3 hours for 14 dose vial
 - Let vial sit at room temperature for 15 minutes before administering
3. Shelf life of un-punctured thawed vial:
 - Refrigerator (2° to 8°C) for maximum 30 days
 - New: Cool storage up to room temperature (8° to 25°C) for maximum 24 hours.
4. New: Shelf life of punctured vial (after first dose has been drawn):
 - Refrigerator or room temperature: **24 hours**
 - Discard punctured vial after 24 hours



5. Actions for punctured vials remaining near the end of a clinic:
- **1-2 hours before the clinic ends, all vials should have affixed labels of expiry time and date.**
 - Any unused vials at the end of clinic to be placed in refrigerator, or by exception at room temperature, in a locked room to use following day.
 - For next day use, clinics to ensure the opened or thawed vials from the previous day are drawn and used before the 24 hour expiration time.

Additional resources

- [Moderna COVID-19 vaccine website](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 product monograph](#)

