

Date: November 22, 2021
To: VCH COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics: Non-Public Health VCH Immunizers
From: Regional Immunization Team
Re: Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) Reporting by COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

AEFI Reporting by COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Providers

Step 1: Does the event meet case definition and temporal reporting criteria?

Reporting criteria for Adverse Events Following Immunizations (AEFI) include two elements:

- Symptoms must meet the case definition **AND** the interval between vaccine administration and symptom onset are consistent with reporting guidelines.
- Refer to [BCCDC Immunization Manual -Part 5, Section 6: Adverse Events Following Immunization](#)
- Both criteria must be met for an AEFI is reportable.
- AEFI occurring at Health Authority Clinics should be reported by the clinician managing the event.

If event meets the reporting criteria

- Complete [AEFI Case Report Form](#)
- Document interval between immunization and onset of each symptom, duration of symptom(s) and outcome.
- Attach pertinent documents such as anaphylaxis worksheet.
- Events are now reported under the Public Health Act; please remind clients that their events will be reported for the purpose of vaccine safety surveillance.

Step 2: Reporting AEFI to Public Health

- Send AEFI Case Report Form to COVID-19 vaccine clinical resource nurse (CRN) or clinical operation supervisor (COS)
- Clinics without CRN or COS:
 - FAX AEFI Case Report Form to [VCH Community Health Centers](#)
 - Once AEFI has been entered in Paris by Public Health, please also send email notification to vaccine.adverse.events@vch.ca

Step 3: Common events that should not be reported

Refer to [BCCDC adverse-events-following-immunization](#)

- Local reaction of pain, swelling, redness, or rash occurring after 48 hrs.
- Delayed local reaction especially with COVID-19 Moderna vaccine (initial local pain, resolves, returns after 8-10 days).
- Anaesthesia/ paresthesia lasting less than 24 hours.
- Syncope that did not require hospital or urgent care services.
- Cellulitis that was not diagnosed by a physician.
- Adenopathy/Lymphadenopathy that was not diagnosed by a physician
- Vomiting and diarrhea with less than 3 episodes in 24 hours.
- Events that have another obvious cause.
- Non-specific systemic reactions (for e.g., headache, myalgia) that are expected side effects following the vaccine.
- Generalized rash for which no medical attention was sought.
- Generalized rashes occurring after 7 days.

Note: a rash diagnosed as hives should be reported as an allergic reaction.

Community Health Centers (CHCs) in Vancouver Coastal Health

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Evergreen CHC 200-3425 Crowley Drive Vancouver Ph: (604)-872-2511 Fax:(604) 871-0174</p> | <p>Pacific Spirit CHC 2110 West 43. Ave Vancouver Ph: (604) 261-6366 Fax: (604) 261-7220</p> | <p>Raven Song CHC 2450 Ontario Rd. Vancouver Ph: (604) 709-6400 Fax: (604) 872-5223</p> | <p>Robert and Lily Lee 200-1669 East Broadway Vancouver Ph: (604) 675-3980 Fax: (604) 253-2749</p> |
| <p>South CHC 6405 Knight Street, Vancouver Ph: (604) 321-6151 Fax: (604) 321-2947</p> | <p>Three Bridges CHC 1128 Hornby Street Vancouver Ph: (604) 331-8900 Fax: (604) 734-5918</p> | <p>Richmond Public Health 8100 Granville Ave Richmond Ph: (604) 233-3150 Fax: (604) 233-3198</p> | <p>Central CHC 132 West Esplanade North Vancouver Ph: (604) 983-6700 Fax: (604) 983-6883</p> |
| <p>Bella Cooola Public Hospital 1025 Elcho Street Bella Cooola Ph: (250) 799-5722 Fax: (250) 799-5635</p> | <p>Gibsons Health Unit 821 Gibsons Way Gibsons Ph: (604) 984-5070 Fax: (604) 984-5075</p> | <p>Pemberton CHC 1403 Portage Road Pemberton Ph: (604) 894-6967 Fax: (604) 894-6491</p> | <p>Powell River CHC 5000 Joyce Avenue Powell River Ph: (604) 485-3310 Fax: (604) 485-3305</p> |
| <p>Whistler Health Care Center 202-4380 Lorimer Road Whistler Ph: (604) 932-3202 Fax: (604) 932-6953</p> | <p>Sechelt Health Unit 5571 Inlet Avenue Sechelt Ph: (604) 885-5164 Fax: (604) 885-9725</p> | <p>Squamish CHC 1140 Hunter Place Squamish Ph: (604) 892-2293 Fax: (604) 892-2327</p> | <p>Other important tel # VCH Communicable Disease Control 800-601 West Broadway Vancouver Ph: (604)-675-3900 Fax (604) 731-2756</p> |

- **Clients residing outside of VCH region:**
 - [Refer to BCCDC "Where to SEND an AEFI Report"](#)