

COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet

Nuvaxovid® Recombinant Protein, Adjuvanted COVID-19 Vaccine Omicron XFG Variant

Please read this information sheet carefully and ensure that your questions have been answered by a health care provider before receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This virus can spread from person to person through activities such as coughing, sneezing and talking. COVID-19 may also spread by touching something that has the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes with unwashed hands. Some people infected with the virus may have no symptoms at all, while others have symptoms that range from mild to severe.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

- sore throat
- runny nose
- sneezing
- new or worsening cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- temperature equal to or more than 38°C
- feeling feverish
- chills
- fatigue or weakness
- muscle or body aches
- new loss of smell or taste
- headache
- abdominal pain, diarrhea and vomiting
- feeling very unwell

How do the COVID-19 vaccines protect against COVID-19?

The COVID-19 vaccines protect against infection from the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) that causes COVID-19. The vaccine triggers your body to produce antibodies and provide strong protection against severe COVID-19 illness, including hospitalization and death. When you get immunized, you help protect others including those who are unable to get the vaccine.

Who should receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

The schedule for Nuvaxovid COVID-19 vaccination for previously vaccinated individuals is one dose per year for individuals **12 years of age and older**. Two doses per year are recommended for the following higher risk individuals:

- Adults 65 years of age or older
- Residents of long-term care homes, as well as residents of other congregate living settings for seniors
- Individuals 6 months of age and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised (due to an underlying condition or treatment)
- The minimum interval between COVID-19 vaccine doses in those previously vaccinated is 3 months.
- For those with a test-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, the interval that can be considered from infection to vaccination **in the primary series** is:
 - 8 weeks for those who are not moderately to severely immunocompromised, and
 - 4 to 8 weeks for those who are [moderately to severely immunocompromised](#)
- For those who are previously vaccinated and who test positive for SARS-CoV-2, a minimum of 3 months from test-confirmed infection to COVID-19 vaccination may be considered.

Immunization is particularly important for those at increased risk of COVID-19 infection or severe disease, for example:

- Adults 65 years of age or older;
- Residents of long-term care homes and other congregate living settings;
- Individuals with [underlying medical conditions](#) that place them at higher risk of severe COVID-19;
- Individuals who are pregnant;
- Individuals in or from First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities;
- Members of racialized and other equity-deserving communities;
- People who provide essential community services.

COVID-19 vaccines may be given concurrently (i.e., same day), or at any time before or after non-COVID-19 vaccines (including live and non-live vaccines).

How is the COVID-19 vaccine administered?

The vaccine is given as an Intramuscular (IM) injection.

Who [should not](#) receive a COVID-19 vaccine?

Do not use NUVAXOVID if you are allergic to the active substance or any of the other ingredients of this vaccine. If you have had an allergic reaction to a previous dose of NUVAXOVID. NUVAXOVID does not contain a preservative.

<i>Medicinal Ingredients</i>	<i>Non-Medicinal Ingredients</i>	<i>Non-Medicinal Adjuvant Ingredients</i>
One dose (0.5 mL) contains 5 mcg of SARS-CoV-2 recombinant spike protein	• Disodium hydrogen phosphate heptahydrate • Hydrochloric acid (for adjustment of pH) • Polysorbate 80 • Sodium chloride • Sodium dihydrogen phosphate monohydrate • Sodium hydroxide (for adjustment of pH) • Water for Injection	• Cholesterol • Disodium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate • Phosphatidylcholine • Potassium chloride • Potassium dihydrogen phosphate • Sodium chloride

Talk to your health-care provider prior to immunization with the COVID-19 vaccine if you:

- Have had a serious allergic reaction after a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine
- Have had an allergic reaction to any contents of the vaccine
- Were diagnosed with inflammation of the heart (myocarditis or pericarditis) by a physician within 6 weeks after a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine without another cause being identified.
- Anyone with high fever should postpone immunization until recovered. Anyone with a mild illness can still receive the vaccine.
- Individuals with a history of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children or adults (MIS-C or MIS-A) should wait to be vaccinated for at least 90 days from diagnosis or clinical recovery, whichever is longer.

Precautions

Please let the immunizer know if you:

- **have fainted or felt faint after receiving past vaccines or medical procedures.**

- **have a bleeding disorder or are taking medication that could affect blood clotting.**

Very rare cases of myocarditis and/or pericarditis following vaccination have been reported during post-authorization use. There is an increased risk for myocarditis and pericarditis following vaccination primarily occurring more often in young male adults. Individuals with a history of confirmed myocarditis (with or without pericarditis) after a dose of COVID-19 vaccine may choose to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine after discussing the risks and benefits with their healthcare provider.

What should I do right after receiving the vaccine?

- **Wait for at least 15 minutes** after receiving your vaccine. Longer waiting times of 30 minutes may be recommended if there is concern about a possible vaccine allergy. Though uncommon, fainting or allergic reactions can occur after vaccination. **Inform a health care provider** at the clinic if you feel unwell while waiting. If you have had an allergic reaction to any medication or vaccine given by injection or intravenous (IV) you will be observed in the clinic for 30 minutes after being vaccinated with mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Do not operate a vehicle** or other form of transportation for at least 15 to 30 minutes after being vaccinated or if you are feeling unwell. Pain or fever medication (such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen) may help with pain or fever.

What are the possible reactions after the vaccines?

Vaccines are very safe. It is much safer to get the vaccine than to get COVID-19. The vaccines are not live virus vaccines and cannot give you COVID-19. Common reactions to the vaccines may include soreness, redness, swelling and itchiness where the vaccine was given. Most side effects after a COVID-19 vaccine are mild and go away within a few days.

Common whole-body reactions include fever, malaise, tiredness, headache, muscle aches, chills, and joint pain.

Serious side effects after receiving the vaccine are rare. However, **if you develop any serious symptoms or symptoms that could be an allergic reaction, call 9-1-1 right away.** Symptoms of an allergic reaction include:

Hives (bumps on the skin that are often very itchy)
Swelling of the face, tongue or throat
Difficulty breathing

A fast heartbeat
Dizziness and weakness
Shortness of breath

If you have any concerns about the symptoms you develop after receiving the vaccine, contact your health care provider for advice.

Things to remember

- *PEI residents ages 16 and over can view a copy of their immunization records through the [MyHealthPEI portal](#) on the PEI government's website.*
- You can download the [CANImmunize](#) app to keep track of the vaccines you have received.
- **Any serious side effects after vaccination should be reported to your local Public Health Office or Health Care Provider.**

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