

COVID-19 Vaccine PIN Eligibility Update

As of Monday, June 12, 2023, eligible PINs for COVID-19 vaccines are being limited to reflect the vaccines currently available in pharmacies.

The following SpikeVax (Moderna) COVID-19 vaccines are no longer available in Alberta as provincial inventory has expired.

- Spikevax (Moderna) bivalent COVID-19 vaccine for Albertans 18 years and older.
- Spikevax (Moderna) original (monovalent) COVID-19 vaccine for Albertans 6 years and older.

Please remove any Spikevax (Moderna) vaccine products from your fridge and ensure to reconcile the inventory in the Alberta Vaccine Inventory (AVI) system.

There continues to be a good supply of the Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNTech) bivalent booster vaccine, so these changes will not impact access or availability of COVID-19 vaccines.

The Pfizer-BioNTech Original (Monovalent) and Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNTech) bivalent COVID-19 vaccines are still available for eligible Albertans as primary series or bivalent booster doses.

The Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNTech) and Spikevax (Moderna) products are both safe, effective and interchangeable.

Children under 12 years of age should be referred to Alberta Health Services (AHS). Albertans can book appointments with AHS by calling 811 or booking online through the Alberta Vaccine Booking System (AVBS) at bookvaccine.alberta.ca.

Updated list of PINs for COVID-19 immunization

The following table is the complete list of PINs as of Monday, June 12, 2023, which can be used by pharmacies for COVID-19 immunizations:

Reason code	Descriptor	PIN
03	Health Care Workers not including LTC/DSL	10000003 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent)
44	LTC/DSL Staff	10000044 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent)
22	LTC/DSL Resident	10000022 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent)
70	Other congregate care living settings (e.g. senior lodges, corrections, group homes)	10000070 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent)
02	Advanced age (65+ years)	10000002 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent) 11700002 (Pfizer/BioNTech bivalent BA4.5)
66	Other Risk (individuals with underlying health conditions, including eligible immunocompromising conditions)	10000066 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent)
72	12 years to 64 years of age	10000072 (Pfizer/BioNTech monovalent) 11700072 (Pfizer/BioNTech bivalent BA4.5)

The Reference Guide for Pharmacists Billing COVID-19 Vaccinations will be updated to reflect these changes.

<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/Reference-guide-for-pharmacists-billing-covid-19-vaccinations.pdf>

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Quarterly update regarding the Authorized Adjustment

The Alberta government, the Alberta Pharmacists' Association and Alberta Blue Cross® continue working collaboratively to monitor pharmacy compensation expenditures and trends for drug benefit fees and pharmacy services. As previously communicated in Benefact 865, a provision exists to enable an Authorized Adjustment mechanism, through a consultative process, should expenditures trend towards exceeding established budget targets. With the completion of the fourth fiscal quarter (January 1 to March 31, 2023), expenditures remain within budget targets, and as a result, there was no need to initiate consultations on the Authorized Adjustment.

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)

403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)

1-800-361-9632 (toll free)

FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)

FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php

