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## Vaccine effectiveness results in B.C.

Measuring Vaccination Impact & Coverage The vaccines continue to provide important protection against serious illness. People who have been vaccinated are much less likely to end up in hospital with COVID-19 than people who have not been vaccinated. Preventing serious outcomes is the main goal of the vaccine program.

## Booster doses and effectiveness against Delta and Omicron: February 2022

Updated estimates of vaccine effectiveness between September 2021 and February 2022 have been assessed when Delta and Omicron were the most common variants. This analysis compared the effectiveness in people who had received two doses of vaccine to those who had received a booster dose, including during the period when Delta dominated or Omicron dominated.

For Delta: Two doses provided excellent protection up to

eight months and **prevented more than 90% of hospitalizations and more than 80% of infection.** 

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For Omicron: Two doses provided **good protection against severe outcomes with about 65-75% of hospitalizations** (reducing the risk of COVID-19 hospitalization by about twothirds to three-quarters compared to unvaccinated people)

**Booster does prevent infection and hospitalization** Booster dose **increased protection up to more than 95%** against Delta infection or hospitalization and up to more than 90% against hospitalization. With Omicron, booster doses: increased protection up to **more than 90% against hositalization** and about 50-60% against infection.

Source: BC Centre for Disease Control http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/measuring-vaccination-impact-coverage

## **COVID-19 and your kids**

(NC) Parents are used to kids picking up germs and getting sick, whether it, Äôs a cold from daycare or a stomach bug from school. We get used to the routine of wiping noses and keeping kids home for a day or two. But it's still worth taking precautions to prevent illness since infections can sometimes result in serious complications.

When it comes to COVID-19, it's true that many children experience mild symptoms. However, some kids can still:



- be hospitalized for complications such as difficulty breathing;

- experience longer-term health effects;

- and get a rare but serious complication called multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children or MIS-C, which can occur several weeks after COVID-19 infection. To help protect your kids, follow public health guidelines, such having your child vaccinated and teaching them about mask wearing and hand cleaning.

Overall, vaccination is one of the best ways to protect your kids from complications from COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines have been authorized in Canada for children six months of age and older, and the National Advisory Committee on Immunization and the Canadian Paediatric Society have made recommendations about using these vaccines for children. They recommended:

- An initial series of vaccines for children five to 11 years of age, with a booster dose recommended for some kids.

- Little ones six months to four years of age may also receive an initial series of vaccines.

Even if they've had COVID-19, vaccination can improve a child's immunity and give them better and longer protection.

Speak with a healthcare provider or find more information at canada.ca/covid-vaccine.