



COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet

Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 COVID-19 Vaccine

Please read this information sheet carefully and ensure that all of 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 coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). COVID-19 is mainly passed from an infected person to others when the infected person coughs, sneezes, sings, talks or breathes.

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

Some people infected with the virus may have no symptoms at all, while others have symptoms that range from mild to severe.

How does the Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 vaccine protect against COVID-19?

NUVAXOVID XBB.1.5 causes the immune system (the body's natural defenses) to produce antibodies and specialized white blood cells that work against the virus, to give protection against COVID-19.

Protein-based vaccines use a purified recombinant protein to help our bodies protect against the virus.

The addition of an adjuvant helps activate the immune system, which enhances the magnitude of the vaccine-specific response to the purified recombinant protein.

Who should receive the COVID-19 Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine?

- Individuals 12 years of age and older without contraindications can receive a dose of Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 vaccine.
- It has been at least 6 months from the previous COVID-19 vaccine dose or known SARS-CoV-2 infection (whichever is later).

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.

Individuals 12 years of age and older who have not been vaccinated with a previously or currently marketed Canadian COVID-19 vaccine series:

- Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 will be given as two 0.5 mL injections. Each injection will be given on a separate visit 3 weeks apart. It is very important that you return for the second injection, or the vaccine may not work as well.
- Individuals should complete the vaccination course with Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5.

How is the COVID-19 vaccine administered?

- The vaccine is given by injection with a needle in the upper arm.

Who should not receive Nuvaxovid XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine?

If you have had a serious or allergic reaction to a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine, you should not be vaccinated until it is determined to be safe by a health care provider.

- A proven immediate or anaphylactic hypersensitivity to the vaccine or one of the ingredients in the vaccine.
- If you have had a serious or allergic reaction to a previous dose of the Novavax Nuvaxovid™ vaccine, you should not be vaccinated until it is determined to be safe by a health care provider.

If you are allergic to the active substance or any of the other ingredients of this vaccine.

Non-medicinal ingredients:

- Disodium hydrogen phosphate heptahydrate
- Sodium dihydrogen phosphate monohydrate
- Sodium chloride
- **Polysorbate 80**
- Sodium hydroxide
- Hydrochloric acid
- Water for Injection

The Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 adjuvant contains saponin, cholesterol, phosphatidylcholine, potassium dihydrogen phosphate disodium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sodium chloride and potassium chloride.

Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 does not contain mRNA, antibiotics, or preservatives; there is no gelatin added in Novavax Nuvaxovid™ XBB.1.5 as a stabilizer.

- If you currently have symptoms that could be due to COVID-19. Talk with your healthcare professional about your symptoms and getting a COVID-19 test.

Questions	Recommendations
Are you allergic to polysorbate 80¹ (which is contained in the Novavax Nuvaxovid XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine)? <i>See footnotes for more details</i>	If you are allergic to polysorbate 80 ¹ , consult with your health care provider about whether to receive the Novavax Nuvaxovid XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine.

¹ Polysorbate 80 can rarely cause allergic reactions and is found in products such as medical preparations (e.g., vitamin oils, tablets, and anticancer agents), and cosmetics.

Do you have a suspected but unproven allergy to a vaccine component (e.g., polysorbate 80)?	If "yes", you may receive the Novavax Nuvaxovid XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccine. You will be asked to wait in the clinic for 30 minutes after receiving the vaccine to make sure you are feeling well.
*Are you or could you be pregnant?	Evidence is now available from real world use of mRNA vaccines , which has not indicated any safety concerns for pregnant and breastfeeding populations. There is more evidence regarding the safety of mRNA vaccines than the Novavax Nuvaxovid vaccine, including for pregnant women, an mRNA vaccine is preferred by NACI.
Do you have a bleeding disorder or are you taking any medications that could affect blood clotting? <i>Ask the health care provider if you are not sure about your medical conditions</i>	If "yes", the health care worker may hold the site where the needle is given for longer to prevent bleeding and bruising.
Have you ever felt faint or fainted after a past vaccination or medical procedure?	If "yes", the health care provider may vaccinate you lying down to prevent you from fainting.

What measures are in place to provide immunizations safely during COVID-19?

- People with symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend the clinic.
- 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 Novavax Nuvaxovid™ COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 Vaccine After-Care Information Sheet

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.
- **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.

What should I expect in the next few days?

Side effects can develop in the day or two after receiving the vaccine. Although these side effects are not serious to your health, they may make you feel unwell for a day or two; they will go away on their own.

- Headache
- feeling sick (nausea) or getting sick (vomiting)
- muscle ache
- joint pain
- tenderness or pain where the injection is given
- feeling very tired (fatigue)
- generally feeling unwell (malaise)
- redness and/or swelling where the injection is given
- fever (> 38°C)
- pain or discomfort in the arm, hand, leg and/or foot (pain in the extremity)

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 or wheezing
 - Stomach pain, nausea or vomiting
- If you have any concerns about the symptoms you develop after receiving the vaccine, contact your health care provider for advice.

Non-severe and severe allergic reactions, hypoaesthesia (decreased sense of touch or sensation, numbness), paraesthesia (tingling, itching or pricking sensation), and tinnitus (ringing in ears) have also been reported. Myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the lining outside the heart) have been reported following NUVAXOVID (Original, Wuhan strain) administration.

Things to remember

- 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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Montague (902) 838-0762

Souris (902) 687-7049

Summerside (902) 888-8160

O'Leary (902) 859-8720

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