

Canadian Immunization Committee

Background:

The Canadian Immunization Committee (CIC) was established in 2004 to provide a national forum to implement the objectives of the National Immunization Strategy (NIS), improve the effectiveness and efficiency of immunization programs, address emerging immunization issues, and foster federal, provincial and territorial (FPT) cooperation, collaboration and engagement of non-governmental stakeholders. CIC is currently co-chaired by Dr. Monika Naus (PT co-chair from BC) and Erin Henry (federal co-chair), and is comprised of one member from each jurisdiction as well as representatives from Federal departments (e.g. Health Canada, Indigenous Services Canada). Members must be knowledgeable in the field of immunization practices and possess multi-disciplinary expertise in public health and in the delivery of immunization programs.

Since 2011, CIC has reported to the Communicable and Infectious Disease Steering Committee (CIDSC). Under the direction of CIDSC, CIC functions as a long term task group providing strategic, operational and technical advice and recommendations to CIDSC on issues related to immunization policies and programs, including:

- immunization program planning;
- immunization program evaluation;
- immunization registries;
- vaccine safety monitoring and response;
- public and professional awareness and confidence in immunization programs;
- procurement and security of vaccine supply; and,
- emerging immunization issues.

To deliver on its mandate, CIC provides oversight of issue-focused sub-groups with expertise relevant to specific areas in vaccination and immunization. There are currently three active sub-groups: the Vaccine Supply Working Group, which provides operational and technical advice to CIC on mechanisms for accessing a high quality and secure supply of vaccine at the best international prices; the Vaccine Vigilance Working Group, which facilitates the development of guidelines, standards, protocols and best practices to improve FPT public health post-market vaccine safety surveillance in Canada; and the Canadian Immunization Registry Coverage Network, which facilitates the development, adoption and implementation of standards, guidelines, policies and best practices to advance the implementation of immunization information systems across Canada and to improve immunization coverage assessment and reporting for both childhood and adult immunization

Role in COVID-19 Pandemic Response:

CIC has and continues to play an integral role in Canada's pandemic response, frequently participating in valuable information sharing opportunities and providing input and feedback on COVID-19 related surveys, guidance documents, statements, and matrices. Engagement completed to date can be found in Appendix A.

Governance:

CIC approved documents/plans are subsequently sent to the Special Advisory Committee (SAC) for approval.

Future Engagement

The following list of engagements are required to support the goal of a successful deployment of a COVID-19 vaccine(s) by Q1 2021.

Activity	Timeline
Planning for COVID-19 vaccine(s) – all aspects of program planning are discussed at each meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation/logistics plan • Administration plan (NACI guidance) • Procurement (NESS) 	To be discussed at each meeting
CIC: Receive a presentation the COVID-19 Immunization Strategy	Once approved by First Ministers
Vaccine Supply	
CIC: Receive presentation on vaccine technology: Vector-Based Vaccines	October 6, 2020
CIC/VSWG: Receive presentations from vaccine manufacturers that have an advance purchase agreement (APA)	Ongoing
Vaccine Allocation, Storage and Delivery	
CIC/VSWG: Provide input into the PwC environmental scan of the existing supply chain capacity for vaccines in Canada; considerations to support the deployment of COVID-19 vaccines to inform the final Vaccine Logistics Plan <u>Deliverable:</u> Environmental scan of existing supply chain capacity	October 6, 2020 and October 20, 2020
CIC/VSWG: Develop the Vaccine Logistics Plan <u>Deliverable:</u> Vaccine Logistics Plan	October 6, 2020 and October 20, 2020 SAC approval: November 2020
CIC/VSWG: Develop the Vaccine Allocation Plan <u>Deliverable:</u> Vaccine Allocation Plan	October 6, 2020 and October 20, 2020 SAC approval: November 2020
CIC/VSWG: Provide input on the procurement of ultra-low temperature freezers (quantities to buy)	September 22, 2020 and October 6, 2020

Vaccine Administration	
<p>CIC/VSWG: Provide input into vaccine administration supplies procurement based on specific manufacturing requirements</p>	Update at every meeting
<p>CIC: Provide input and feedback into the NACI guidance on COVID-19 vaccine(s)</p>	Once a vaccine(s) has been authorized
<p>CIC/VSWG:</p> <p>Develop guidance document for storage and handling of COVID vaccines - revisions based on updated information on the product monographs to manage non-standard management of storage and handling including dry ice certification</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> guidance document for storage and handling of COVID vaccines</p>	<p>October 20, 2020</p> <p>SAC approval: November 2020</p>
<p>CIC: Develop training module for HCWs on COVID-19 vaccine administration</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> training module for HCWs on COVID-19 vaccine administration</p>	<p>December 2020</p> <p>SAC approval: December 2020</p>
Vaccine Safety, Coverage and Effectiveness	
<p>CIC/VSWG: Develop framework strategy for end to end monitoring of COVID-19 vaccine distribution and inventory management in Canada</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> Framework for end to end monitoring of COVID-19 vaccine distribution and inventory management in Canada</p>	<p>October 2020 (assessment/engagement with PTs)</p> <p>November – testing with manufacturers</p> <p>December 2020 – final strategy</p> <p>SAC approval: December 2020</p>
<p>CIC: Develop vaccine coverage survey</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> Vaccine coverage survey</p>	October 2020
<p>CIC: Develop weekly vaccine reporting templates</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> weekly vaccine reporting templates</p>	November 2020
<p>CIC: Develop vaccine safety reporting template</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> vaccine safety reporting template</p>	November 2020

<p>CIC: Develop Weekly report template (vaccine safety)</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> Weekly vaccine safety reporting template</p>	November 2020
<p>CIC: Develop vaccine safety interactive dashboard</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u> vaccine safety interactive dashboard</p>	November 2020
<p>CIC: Develop surveillance proposal</p> <p><u>Deliverable:</u></p>	December 2020
Vaccine Confidence	
<p>CIC: Provide input on vaccine confidence strategy, including common messaging and amplification efforts after being presented to Dr. King and VP-IDPCB</p>	October 20, 2020
Vaccine Regulatory and Authorization	
<p>Health Canada Lead (A representative from BRDD is a member of CIC)</p>	

Appendix A - Completed Engagement

Activity	Timeline
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Vaccine Supply	
Received a Vaccine Technology Tutorial presentation on mRNA vaccines	September 8, 2020
Received a presentation on Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Logistics	September 22, 2020
Vaccine Allocation, Storage and Delivery	
Feedback on the Statement of Work (SoW) for the Logistics Plan for the Deployment of COVID-19 Vaccines in Canada (Price Waterhouse Cooper work)	September 2020
Vaccine Administration	
Input into the Interim Guidance on Continuity of Immunization Programs during the COVID-19 Pandemic	April 2020
PT Vaccination administration supply survey for procurement	May 2020
Input and feedback on the Guidance for Influenza Vaccine Delivery in the Presence of COVID-19	July 2020
Input and feedback on Feasibility Issues with Implementing a COVID-19 Vaccine Program	July 2020
Input and feedback on the Recommendations on the Duration of Post-Vaccine Observation Period during the COVID-19 Pandemic	July 2020
Input into the Survey on Priority Immunization Strategies for COVID-19 Vaccines	July/August 2020
Input and feedback on NACI preliminary guidance on key populations for early COVID-19 vaccination	July 2020, August 2020 and September 2020
Input into the feasibility Matrix to support Interim Guidance on COVID-19 Immunization Strategies	August 2020
Input and feedback on the Interim Guidance on the Use of Influenza Vaccine in the Presence of COVID-19	August 2020
Input and feedback on the Feasibility Matrix for Guidance on Dose Sparing Strategies for Seasonal Influenza in case of Shortage	August 2020
Vaccine Safety, Coverage and Effectiveness	
Identification of change in vaccination rates	April 2020
Vaccine Confidence	
Presentation from COVID-19 Snapshot Monitoring (COSMO) Canada study on vaccination (including vaccine confidence levels)	July 2020
Vaccine Regulatory and Authorization	
Review and input into the Health Canada Interim Order Consultation	May 2020