



Sioux Lookout  
First Nations  
Health Authority

# CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

## INFORMATION SHEET

### AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccines

June 18, 2021

- AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines were approved for use in Canada on February 26, 2021.
- It is 62% effective at preventing symptomatic COVID-19.
- Protection starts 2 weeks after the second dose and increases over time.
- It provides good protection against the Alpha variant.
- You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. There is no live virus in it.
- Pregnant or breastfeeding women can have this vaccine.
- Common side effects include pain at the injection site, body chills, tiredness, and fever. These side effects are not harmful and go away after a day or two.
- Allergic reactions and severe side effects are very rare. Talk with your community health team if you have a history of allergies or other health conditions.

**Due to safety concerns about a condition called VITT**, this vaccine is only for people 40 years and older in Ontario. To read a about *Vaccine Induced Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT) and COVID-19 Vaccines*, visit [www.slfhna.com/covid/](http://www.slfhna.com/covid/)

**Dosing recommendations have changed as of June 17, 2021.** AstraZeneca was originally approved as a two-dose series. For people who have already had one dose, NACI recommends that the second dose be an mRNA vaccine, such as Pfizer or Moderna. People who have had 2 doses of AstraZeneca are considered to be fully vaccinated and have good protection against COVID-19 disease.

**Questions?** Write to us at: [ACWinfo@slfhna.com](mailto:ACWinfo@slfhna.com)

You can find a full version of this document, *AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ*, on our website at: [www.slfhna.com/covid/](http://www.slfhna.com/covid/)

We are learning more each day about COVID-19 vaccines. This is accurate as of June 18, 2021.