

Renfrew County and District Health Unit FACT SHEET

COVID-19 Vaccine (Developed by Moderna)

What is Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine used for?

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine is a vaccine used to prevent the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus and can only be administered to adults aged 18 years and older.

How does Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine work?

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine works by causing the body to produce its own protection (antibodies) against the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes the COVID-19 infection. Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine uses a molecule called messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) to deliver the set of instructions that cells in the body can use to make antibodies to help fight the virus that causes COVID-19. You cannot get COVID-19 infection from the vaccine. The vaccines are not live vaccines and do not cause the disease they are designed to prevent.

As with any vaccine, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine may not fully protect all those who receive it. Even after you have had both doses of the vaccine, continue to follow the recommendations of local public health officials to prevent spread of COVID-19. Individuals may not be optimally protected until after receiving the second dose of the vaccine. You cannot get COVID-19 from this vaccine.

What are the ingredients in Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine?

Medicinal ingredients:

• mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2

Non-medicinal ingredients:

- 1,2-distearoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DSPC),
- acetic acid,
- cholesterol,
- PEG2000 DMG (1,2-dimyristoyl-rac-glycerol, methoxy-polyethyleneglycol),
- lipid SM-102,
- sodium acetate,
- sucrose,
- tromethamine
- tromethamine hydrochloride,
- water for injection.

Of note, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine vials are not made with natural rubber latex.

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Do not receive Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine if:

- You are allergic to the active substance or any of the other ingredients of this vaccine.
- You have had an allergic reaction to a previous dose of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, or 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. Your healthcare professional will advise you when you are able to receive the vaccine.

To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you receive Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:

- Have any allergies or previous problems following administration of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine such as an allergic reaction or breathing problems.
- Have a bleeding problem, bruise easily or use a blood thinning medication.
- Have a high fever or severe infection.
- Have any serious illness.
- Have a weakened immune system due to a medical condition or are on a medicine that affects your immune system.
- Are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

There is no information on the use of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine with other vaccines. Tell your healthcare professional if you have recently received any other vaccine.

What are possible side effects from using Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine?

Like all vaccines, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine can cause side effects. The following are common or very common side effects of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine. Most of these side effects are mild and do not last long.

- Pain at the injection site
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle ache and stiffness
- Chills
- Fever
- Swelling or redness at the injection site
- Nausea and/or vomiting

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Enlarged lymph nodes

A cool damp cloth where the vaccine was given may help with soreness and, if needed, pain or fever medication (such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen) may help with pain or fever.

If you experience any side effects not listed here, tell your healthcare professional. Should you develop any serious symptoms or symptoms that could be an allergic reaction, seek medical attention immediately. 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.

If you experience a severe allergic reaction, call 9-1-1, or go to the nearest hospital.

If you want more information about Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine:

- talk to your healthcare professional,
- find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals at https://covid-vaccine.canada.ca/info/pdf/moderna-covid-19-vaccine-pm1.pdf, or
- visit our website at www.rcdhu.com.

Resources

Reference: Product monograph-Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Patient medication information. December 23, 2020. Available at https://covid-vaccine.canada.ca/info/pdf/moderna-covid-19-vaccine-pm1.pdf