8 Things You Should Not Be Ashamed To Ask At A Vaccine Clinic

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We know the process of booking a vaccination appointment can be stressful, so don’t be afraid to ask questions at the clinic!

The staff are there to help & will try their best to accommodate you if you have any concerns.

Remember to be kind to all of the volunteers & staff on-site ❤️

Note: There are a variety of clinic types throughout Canada and this list mostly applies to mass clinics, however, regardless of location or clinic type, don’t hesitate to ask questions as long as it is in a respectful manner.

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"WHAT TYPE OF VACCINE AM I GETTING?"

The staff will be happy to tell you and it will also be listed on your receipt.

"WHO IS ADMINISTERING THE VACCINE?"

It may be a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, first responder, or other trained personnel.

"CAN MY SUPPORT PERSON ACCOMPANY ME?"

Most clinics will allow you to bring a support person if required for accessibility, help with interpretation / translation, and medical reasons. Alternatively, the clinic may be able to arrange it so that a volunteer can sit down with you.

"I AM ALLERGIC TO X / HAVE Y MEDICAL CONDITION, IS IT OKAY TO GET THE SHOT?"

Before getting the vaccine you will be asked questions about your medical history (e.g. allergies), so please tell the immunizer if you have any health concerns. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should NOT attend the clinic.

"I OFTEN FAINT / THROW UP / REACT BADLY WHEN I GET NEEDLES. WHAT SHOULD I DO?"

It is important to share this with the medical person charged with delivering your vaccine. You may have the option of getting your shot in a private area or while lying down, and they may monitor you more closely.

"WILL I GET A RECEIPT OF MY VACCINATION?"

In most cases you will either receive a printed or emailed receipt so double-check with the clinic that they have your correct contact info.

"HOW DO I BOOK MY NEXT SHOT?"

Some clinics will book it for you before you leave while others will send an email or ask you to follow up. Please ask if you are not sure.

"I AM PART OF X GROUP, CAN I BOOK MY SECOND DOSE SOONER THAN 16 WEEKS?"

Certain groups may be eligible to get their second dose sooner. Let the staff know if you think you are a part of these groups and they can advise you. Eligibility varies, so it’s best to ask if you are uncertain whether you qualify, or to check your local health unit’s website.