

## Onsite Health & Safety Policy and Guidelines

*As of June 13, 2022*

The wellbeing of everyone involved with the Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention (BDRP) 62nd Annual Meeting is our number one priority. Here is what we are doing to protect your health and give you peace of mind while attending our 62nd Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. We will continue to update these policies as the situation evolves and in accordance with governmental requirements.

### Checklist of Requirements to Attend

- ✓ Proof of Full Vaccination
- ✓ Free of COVID-19 [symptoms](#) and no recent known exposures to a person with COVID-19
- ✓ Attendees traveling to the meeting from outside Canada must be fully vaccinated [as defined by the Government of Canada](#) and must download and use the [ArriveCAN](#) app to enter proof of vaccination and travel information up to 72 hours before traveling to Canada.

### Proof of Full Vaccination

BDRP is requiring proof of full vaccination for all onsite attendees of the meeting. When you arrive at the meeting, please bring proof of vaccination and valid government-issued photo ID to the registration desk so that we may verify your status onsite while checking you in for the meeting.

Due to the meeting's location in Canada, BDRP is adhering to the Government of Canada's guidelines related to approved vaccines and the resultant fully vaccinated status. The definition of fully vaccinated as provided by the Government of Canada at the time of the occurrence of the BDRP 62nd Annual Meeting will be followed. Currently, as defined by the Government of Canada, to qualify as a fully vaccinated, you must have received, at least 14 calendar days by the day you travel: at least 2 doses of a vaccine accepted by the Government of Canada for the purpose of travel, or a mix of 2 accepted vaccines, or at least 1 dose of the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Visit the [Government of Canada website](#) for more details and a complete list of vaccines accepted by the Government of Canada.

### Masks Optional

At this time, wearing masks in public indoor settings and events is not required in [British Columbia](#). As such, masks are optional at the meeting. As a courtesy, red dot stickers will be available for attendees to add to their badges if they would like other attendees to wear a mask in their presence or social distance from them. For example, if a poster presenter has a red dot sticker on their badge, other attendees are encouraged to mask up when visiting that individual at their poster (even if you do not plan to wear a mask throughout the meeting) or social distance. Special care will be taken when planning meeting room seating and events to allow extra space for those who wish to social distance.

## Stop the Spread

If you have tested positive in the last 10 days, are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or have recently been in close contact with an individual positive with COVID-19, do not attend the in-person event. If you begin to show [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, please follow [guidance from the local health authority](#) regarding testing and self-quarantine. Please note that BDRP is not supplying onsite testing. [FastTest](#) is the closest testing facility to the meeting location that provides both rapid and viral testing and is just a two-minute walk from the Hyatt Regency Vancouver. Testing is the responsibility of the individual. Attendees may wish to consider bringing a rapid test kit to have on hand for added convenience and peace of mind.

## Traveling to Vancouver

Government requirements can change rapidly, so we recommend you check the links provided for the most up-to-date information.

### Entry Requirements for International Fully Vaccinated Travelers entering Canada:

You must use the [ArriveCAN](#) app, to enter your proof of vaccination and travel information up to 72 hours before your travel.

Currently, pre-entry testing is not a requirement to enter Canada. Additionally, the Government of Canada has temporarily suspended random arrival testing at all airports through June 30, 2022, for travelers who qualify as fully vaccinated. However, if you are traveling to Canada by a land border crossing, you may be randomly selected for a mandatory arrival test. (If selected, as a fully vaccinated traveler, you can travel to your destination without waiting for your arrival test results).

See [Canadian Government Travel Requirements](#) for more information.

### Travelers returning to the United States of America

At this time, there is no pre-entry testing requirement for air travelers to the United States of America.

See [US Government COVID-19 Travel Information](#) for more details.

### Travelers returning to other international destinations

If testing is required for your return trip home, please note that BDRP is not supplying onsite testing. [FastTest](#) is the closest testing facility to the meeting location that provides both rapid and viral testing and is just a two-minute walk from the Hyatt Regency Vancouver. We encourage you to book appointments in advance. FastTest is located at 900 W. Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC, and may be reached at 1-833-472-7669 or [info@fast-test.ca](mailto:info@fast-test.ca) or on their [website](#).

## Unvaccinated (or Partially Vaccinated) Attendees

Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated individuals are welcome to participate in the BDRP 62nd Annual Meeting virtually. All scientific sessions (with the exception of two workshops) will be livestreamed and available on demand for 90 days following the meeting.