

EXTRA PROTECTION VACCINES: COSTS



The term “extra protection” helps you to think about this group of vaccines in terms of risk of disease, benefits of vaccines and the costs. Visit the [BC Pediatrics Society website \(Families\)](#) for more information and resources to further inform your decisions about vaccines for your family.

Questions often asked by parents about the costs of extra protection vaccines:

Q1: “Why aren’t all vaccines publicly funded?”

The school vaccine program dispenses some, but not all vaccines. Decisions to fund vaccine programs are made by the Ministry of Health based on considerations such as safety, quality and recommendations from local immunization and public health experts.

We likely all recognize that funds are not unlimited, and funding for vaccines has to compete with funding for other health care initiatives.

Q2: “How much do the vaccines cost?”

Non-publicly funded vaccine costs range from \$20 - \$200 per injection, multiplied by the number of doses in a series.

There may be additional fees for consultation, dispensing and injecting.

Vaccine costs vary throughout the Province for the various types of vaccines, and by source.

Pharmacies set their own cost structure and travel clinics may be private or public-health supported.



Visit the [BC Pediatric Society website](#) for information about Immunization and other topics of interest to families at www.bcpeds.ca/families.