



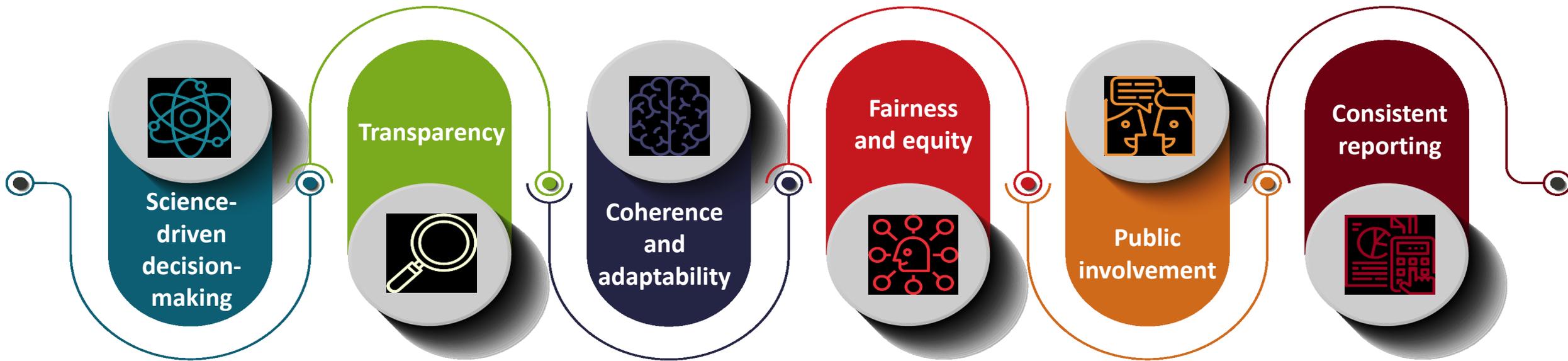
Canada's COVID-19 Immunization Plan: Saving Lives and Livelihoods

February 2021

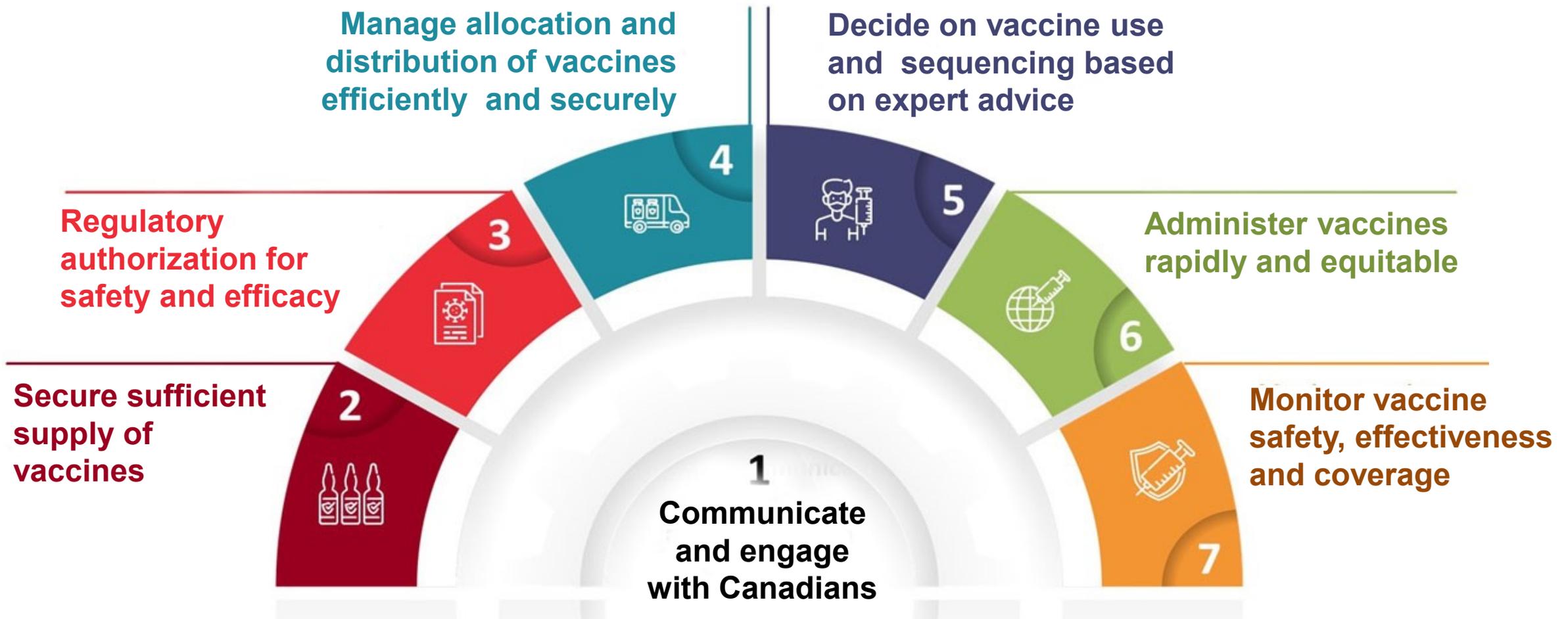


The Goal of Canada's COVID-19

The goal of Canada's COVID-19 immunization response is: **to enable as many Canadians as possible to be immunized as quickly as possible against COVID-19, while ensuring that high risk populations are prioritized.** The plan is rooted in core principles of:



The Immunization Plan is Comprised of Seven Key Elements



Key Partners



Federal government

Safe & timely delivery on behalf of, and to P/Ts¹; approves safe & efficacious vaccines for use; supports P/Ts¹ to manage more complex logistics



Provincial & Territorial governments

Provinces and territories are responsible for delivering vaccinations to their populations. Tasks include planning sequencing, managing and communicating vaccination plan and administering



Indigenous peoples

F/P/T² governments work together with First Nations, Inuit and Metis leaders to support community-led approaches for access to an efficacious and culturally safe immunization program



Expert advisers

Includes health/ logistics experts from academia & Immunization Committees; to ensure evidence-based immunization

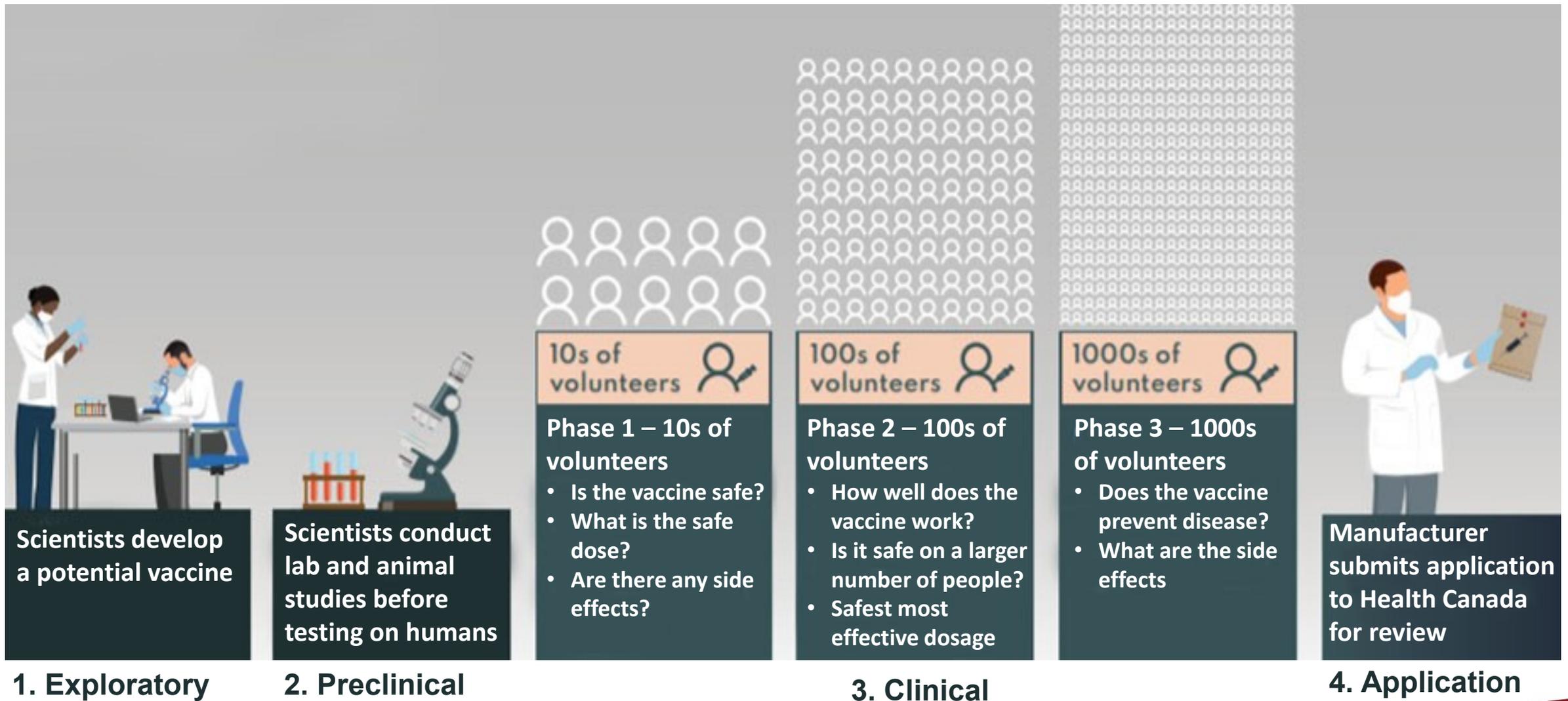


International collaborators

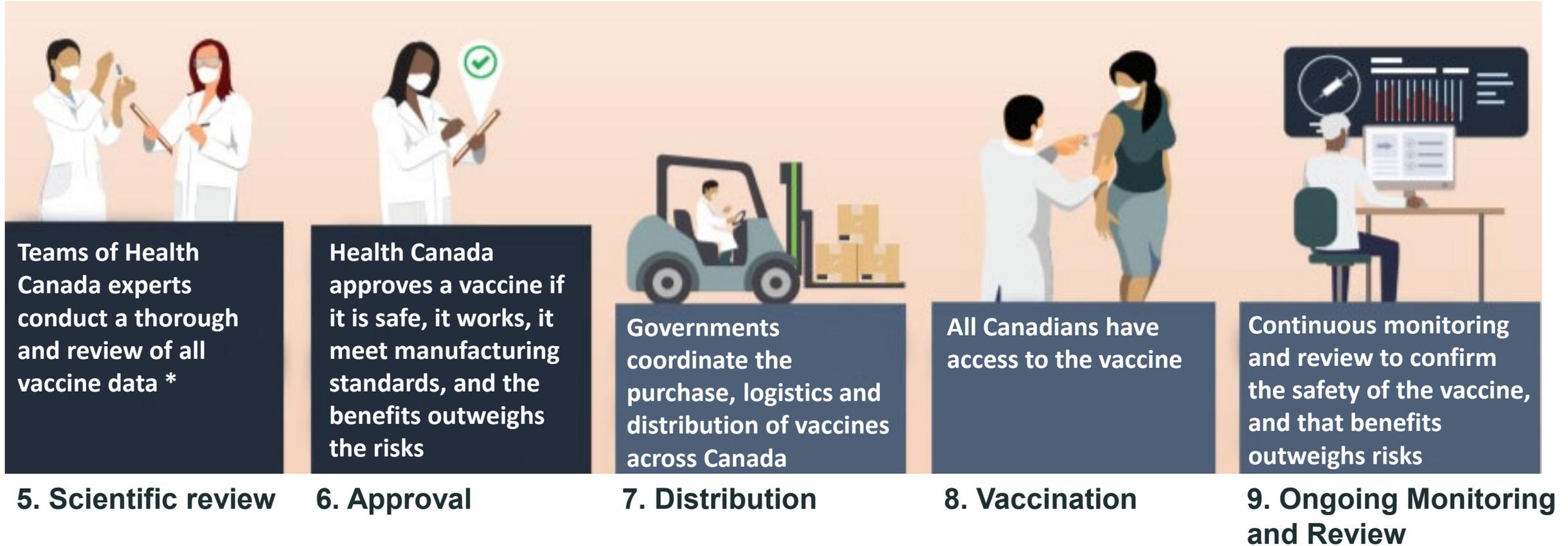
Close cooperation with the WHO and the scientific & regulatory community will support approval and roll-out

1. Provinces/Territories; 2. Federal/Provincial/Territorial

Vaccine Development, Review and Approval in Canada (1 of 2)



Vaccine Development, Review and Approval in Canada (2 of 2)



For COVID-19 vaccines, Health Canada is using a fast tracked process that allows manufacturers to submit data as it becomes available, and for Health Canada experts to start the review process right away. **Vaccines will only be authorized once we have all necessary evidence.**

Access to a Safe and Effective Vaccine

- Canada has secured enough doses to provide access to vaccines to all Canadians in 2021.
- The earliest vaccines started arriving in December 2020 and deliveries will grow to an estimated 6M doses by the end of March 2021.
- Vaccines will be administered to high-risk populations first, with enough vaccine for all expected by the end of September 2021.

Priority Populations: Early COVID-19 Vaccination*

Stage 1

- Residents and staff of congregate living settings that provide care for seniors
- Adults 70 years of age and older, beginning with adults 80 years of age and older, then decreasing the age limit by 5-year increments to age 70 years as supply becomes available
- Frontline health care workers (including those who work in health care settings and personal support workers with direct contact with patients)
- Adults in Indigenous communities where infection can have disproportionate consequences

* Based on independent, expert advice provided by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)

Stage 2

NACI recommends that as additional COVID-19 vaccine supplies become available with sufficient supply to vaccinate the above populations, authorized COVID-19 vaccine(s) should be offered to individuals without contraindications in the following populations:

1. Adults in or from Indigenous communities not offered vaccine in Stage 1
2. Residents and staff of other congregate living settings (e.g., quarters for migrant workers, shelters)
3. Adults 60-69 years of age, beginning with ≥ 65 years, then decreasing age limit to 60 years
4. Adults in racialized and marginalized communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19
5. First responders (e.g., police, firefighters)
6. Frontline essential workers who cannot work virtually (direct, close physical contact with the public)
7. Essential primary caregiver for individuals who are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to advanced age

* Based on independent, expert advice provided by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)

Stage 3

1. Adults 16-59 years of age with an underlying medical condition at high risk of severe illness due to COVID-19 and their essential primary caregivers
2. Adults 50-59 years of age without an underlying medical condition, beginning with ≥ 55 years then decreasing age limit to 50 years
3. Non-frontline healthcare workers needed to maintain healthcare capacity (direct, close physical contact with the public)
4. Non-frontline essential workers (direct, close physical contact with the public)

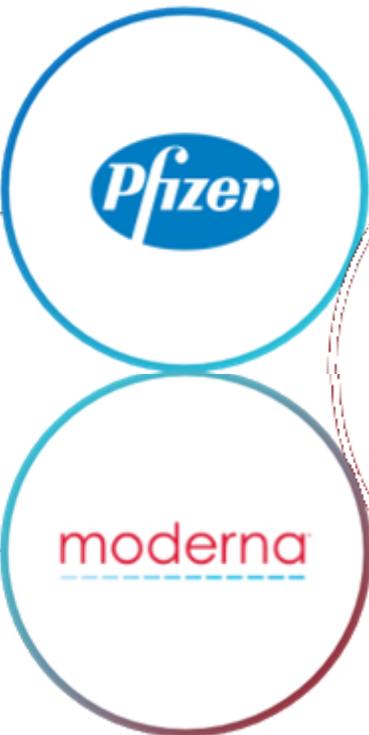
* Based on independent, expert advice provided by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)

Delivery and Distribution of Approved and Potential COVID-19 Vaccines

Federal government to support transportation and delivery

Ultra-frozen storage and handling (-80°C)

Frozen storage and handling (-20°C)



Vaccine candidates

Distributed using existing distribution mechanisms across Canada

More typical vaccine storage and handling requirements

Administration

- Provinces and territories are responsible for the allocation, delivery, storage, distribution, prioritization, and administration of vaccines within their jurisdictions.
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments work together with First Nations, Inuit and Métis leaders to support readiness to receive and administer the vaccines.

Monitoring

- Existing and enhanced Federal, Provincial and Territorial vaccine surveillance systems will monitor, assess effectiveness, investigate and address adverse events, and regularly report publicly on results.
- Vaccine companies are also required to continuously monitor the use of their health products and report any side effects to Health Canada. Data comes from the frontlines and regulators in Canada and abroad.

Timeline

- **December:**

- * Launch of the National Operations Centre, national logistics service provider, and establishment of model points of vaccine administration across Canada for training purposes.

- * Commencement of immunization of priority populations.

- **Spring:** continue immunization with expanded priority populations.

- **Summer:** immunization of general population.

Note: timing for vaccination of children will depend on when vaccines will be authorized for them.

- **End of 2021:** completion of COVID-19 immunization campaign.

Going Forward

- Implementation of Canada's COVID-19 immunization plan is under way. Vaccinations will be available at no cost to everyone in Canada who wants one.
- Governments across Canada are committed to working together and to keeping Canadians informed throughout Canada's COVID-19 immunization response. Addressing the threat of COVID-19 is a shared responsibility. We each have an essential part to play in saving lives and protecting Canadian livelihoods.
- Until extensive immunization is achieved, public health measures will continue to be essential to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in Canada and save lives.



Digital Tools: COVID-19

COVID Alert App

COVID Alert is Canada's free exposure notification app. The app can let people know of possible exposures before any symptoms appear.



COVID-19 App and Symptom tracker

The app will let you receive the latest updates, trusted resources, and self-assess your symptoms.



Wellness Together Canada:

Mental Health and Substance Use Support

Wellness Together Canada provides free online resources, tools, apps and connections to qualified people when needed.



ArriveCAN

Use this mobile app at Canadian ports of entry to speed up your arrival process in Canada and spend less time with border services and public health officers.



We can all do our part in preventing the spread of COVID-19. For more information, visit Canada.ca/coronavirus or contact 1-833-784-4397

Key Information : COVID-19

Awareness resources

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/awareness-resources.html>

Digital Tools

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/digital-resources.html>

COVID-19 Immunization Plan

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/canadas-reponse/canadas-covid-19-immunization-plan.html>

COVID-19 Vaccines

- <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html>
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/covid-19-vaccine-treatment/vaccine-rollout.html>
- <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccine-safety/>

Call to Action: Be an Ambassador for COVID-19 Vaccination

Inform others: Help us share credible COVID-19 information on vaccines and public health with your communities ([Bilingual](#) / [Multilingual](#) toolkits).

Champion healthy practices: As vaccination rolls out, lead by example by continuing to follow good public health practices to protect against COVID-19 and encourage your community members to do the same.

Think local: Your local public health authority determines appropriate measures within your community so “think local” and follow local public health advice.