



The Canadian Rheumatology Association recommends all adult rheumatology patients receive the COVID-19 vaccine unless they have known allergies to any of the vaccine components. There is no preference for one type of vaccine over another.

To ensure maximum benefit from the vaccine, the Canadian Rheumatology Association recommends the following changes/delays for certain medications. **Please review these charts to find out what you should do with your medications.**

- 1) If you are taking any of the following medications, you do NOT need to change or delay your medications:

Actemra (tocilizumab)	Kineret (anakinra)
Azathioprine	Leflunomide
Brenzys (etanercept)	Plaquenil (hydroxychloroquine)
Cellcept (mycophenolate)	Prednisone 20mg or less
Cimzia (certolizumab)	Renflexis (infliximab)
Cosentyx (secukinumab)	Simponi (golimumab)
Cyclophosphamide (oral)	Stelara (ustekinumab)
Cyclosporine	Sulfasalazine
Erelzi (etanercept)	Tacrolimus
Humira (adalimumab)	Taltz (ixekizumab)
Inflectra (infliximab)	

- 2) If you are taking any of the following, you have the option to adjust your medication as indicated or continue without interruption. **Please self-evaluate what will work for you** – will you flare if you hold the medication? If so, then do not make changes.

If you are taking....	Then you can....
Cyclophosphamide IV infusions	Receive the vaccine at least 1 week before your next infusion
Methotrexate	Skip one dose after vaccination
Olumiant (baricitinib)	Hold doses for 1 week after vaccination

Orencia (abatacept) IV infusions	Receive the first dose 4 weeks after your infusion and postpone your next infusion by 1 week. No adjustments for the 2 nd dose.
Orencia (abatacept) SC injections	Hold one dose before and after your 1 st Covid vaccine. No adjustments for the 2 nd dose.
Rinvoq (upadacitinib)	Hold doses for 1 week after vaccination
Xeljanz (tofacitinib)	Hold doses for 1 week after vaccination

3) If you are on the following, please review the chart for recommendations:

If you are taking....	Then you can....
Prednisone 21mg or higher	Consider waiting until you are on 20mg or less
Riximyo (rituximab)	Receive the vaccine 4-5 months after your last infusion and 2-4 weeks before your next.
Ruxience (rituximab)	Receive the vaccine 4-5 months after your last infusion and 2-4 weeks before your next.