

June 9, 2025

Ms. Delphine Lansac
Vaccines General Manager
Sanofi Canada
1755 Steeles Ave. West
Toronto, Ontario M2R 3T4

Dear Ms. Lansac,

We would like to thank Sanofi Canada for its commitment to make the Novavax Nuvaxovid vaccine available to Canadians. We hope that this will occur as soon as possible given that Sanofi is not planning to bring the vaccine to the Canadian market this fall.

As you know, the provision of Covid-19 vaccine options can help improve the rate of annual and/or semi-annual vaccination, a vital component of the ongoing challenge to prevent and limit the impact of this illness. Given sufficient publicity and promotion, Nuvaxovid could well have a larger role in Canada due to its more traditional technology and lower reactogenicity.

Nuvaxovid is of special importance for those who cannot take the mRNA vaccines due to pre-existing conditions, risk of adverse effects, or their lower tolerability. This includes many people with long Covid, autoimmune illnesses, and other immunocompromising conditions. These Canadians are especially vulnerable to severe Covid-19 infections and are most in need of vaccination. For many, Nuvaxovid is their only option. As you might know, preventative monoclonal antibody treatment (i.e., pemivibart) is not available in Canada and access to antiviral agents, such as nirmatrelvir/ritonavir, is very restricted. Many members of our communities feel abandoned, and going through daily life without the protection of Covid-19 vaccination leads to significant emotional and psychological burden.

We hope that the commercialization of Nuvaxovid will be expedited so that this vaccine option is soon easily and widely available across Canada. While many Canadians erroneously believe that we have “moved on” from Covid-19, we can assure you that this is far from reality, especially for those who are at heightened vulnerability to this serious illness. There continues to be substantial interest regarding the Canadian availability of Nuvaxovid, and we feel that public communication of Sanofi’s plans regarding this vaccine would help alleviate Canadians’ concerns. The likely availability of the Novavax vaccine in the United States but not Canada for the upcoming vaccine season has left many confused and dismayed. In the past, Canadians travelled to the U.S. to get this vaccine, but given the current political situation there is reluctance to cross the border to do this.

We would be happy to accompany you in dialogue with Health Canada and the provincial and territorial health ministries regarding the expeditious return of Nuvaxovid to Canada if you think that this would be helpful. If the delay in Canadian availability is due to regulatory issues, our

organizations would be happy to relay our concerns to the relevant government agencies.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard Doan, MD
Volunteer, Canadian Covid Society



Michelle Burleigh
Founder, Immunocompromised People Are
Not Expendable (IPANE)
Co-Chair, Canadian Immunocompromised
Advocacy Network (CIAN)

