



## **COVID-19 Update for CDHA Members** **September 23, 2021**

### **CDHA is Here to Help**

Read our latest updates: [www.cdha.ca/COVID19](http://www.cdha.ca/COVID19)  
Email us: [alerts@cdha.ca](mailto:alerts@cdha.ca)

Dear member,

### **CDHA Statement on Vaccination**

The Canadian Dental Association just released a [statement](#) on mandatory vaccination for healthcare workers, including oral health care professionals. CDHA has chosen not to make a statement on mandatory vaccination at this time. CDHA fully supports and encourages vaccination for all healthcare workers as an important public health measure to protect clients, the healthcare workforce, and the capacity to continue providing quality health care. There is significant evidence that vaccines are safe and effective. High vaccination rates within the general population help to protect those that cannot be vaccinated, (e.g., the under 12 population, those who cannot receive the vaccine for medical reasons and those who are at highest risk for complications arising from COVID-19). Vaccinations have been shown to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and reduce the severity of illness, thereby reducing hospitalizations, and preventing death. Currently, the caseload of COVID-19 across Canada is higher among unvaccinated individuals and they are the most likely to require hospitalization and be admitted to ICU.

### **COVID-19 Cases in Hospitals and ICU's**

Many provinces recently reported that a large proportion of COVID-19 cases ending up in hospitals and ICU are unvaccinated individuals. [Data](#) from Health Canada extracted in September 2021 shows that 87.5% of COVID-19 cases between December 2020 and August 2021 were in unvaccinated individuals. Read more stats by provinces/territories where data is available: [BC](#), [AB](#), [SK](#), [MB](#), [ON](#), QC, NB, [NS](#), [PEI](#), NL, and Territories.

THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION  
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## Results of CDHA September Poll on Vaccination

Thank you to the 5,530 dental hygienists that took the time to answer our quick poll on COVID-19 vaccination. The percentage of responses per province/territory was representative of the membership. Here is a snapshot of the results:

2021 Poll questions on vaccines	JAN n=4,689	APR n=4,378	SEP n=5,530
Yes, I have received 1 dose.	less than 1 %	75%	2%
Yes, I have received both doses.	---	6%	80%
Yes, I will get it within the year.	18%	4%	1%
Not sure.	18%	5%	5%
No.	9%	4%	12%

Breakdown of respondents to CDHA poll:

In %	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	PEI	NL	North	Overall
<b>Fully vaccinated</b>	85	73	84	90	77	82	89	93	96	92	94	80
<b>Will not get vaccinated</b>	9	17	8	4	14	9	5	1	0	0	0	12
<b>Support mandatory vaccination</b>	65	54	67	72	61	67	74	72	86	74	68	62

## Health Canada approves both mRNA vaccines

On September 16, Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines were fully approved for use under the Food and Drug Regulation. With the approval came new names, Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty® and Moderna Spikevax® COVID-19 vaccines with no changes to their formulation or product monograph. Comirnaty and Spikevax are both approved for use on individuals aged 12 and older.

## Monitoring of side effects following COVID-19 vaccination

Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the provinces and territories, and manufacturers continue to closely monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines. A summary of reported side effects and the percentage of those affected by them, is updated weekly, [read more](#).



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*Please be well and take care of yourselves in this difficult time.  
Everyone can do their part to slow COVID-19.*

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