



COVID-19 Update for CDHA Members **June 22, 2021**

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Dear member,

NACI updated statement on June 17, 2021

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) released an update on first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in Canada, based on the review of current scientific evidence. An mRNA vaccine is now preferred as the second dose for individuals who received a first dose of the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine. Read [more](#).

Vaccine Injury Support Program (VISP)

The federal government has launched the Vaccine Injury Support Program for any Canadian who have experienced a serious and permanent injury after having received a Health Canada authorized vaccine in Canada on or after December 8, 2020. More information can be found [here](#).

Addressing vaccine hesitancy as health care providers

Although there has been a significant uptake of Canadians getting a COVID-19 vaccine, there is still a notable minority of Canadians continuing to express some degree of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy. The Public Health Agency of Canada and the National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases recently co-hosted a [webinar](#) for health care providers on how to address COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy. PHAC has also released a [primer for health care providers](#) on addressing vaccine hesitancy in the context of COVID-19.

THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION
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Health Canada regulates UV, ozone devices

On June 7, an interim [order](#) was signed requiring manufacturers of UV radiation-emitting and ozone-generating devices such as lights and wands used for cleaning to apply for authorization under the *Pest Control Products Act*. This will be regulating UV radiation-emitting and ozone-producing cleaning devices that may pose a significant risk to Canadians and may not live up to their claims that they kill bacteria or viruses like the one that causes COVID-19 on surfaces and objects.

A warning has been issued saying it is not known how safe and effective these devices are. Health Canada warns that exposure to UV light from UV radiation-emitting devices may cause serious injuries and severe burns to the skin and eyes and inhalation of ozone from ozone-generating devices may impair lung function, inflame pulmonary tissues, and even cause irreversible lung damage. If you are using some of these devices currently in your office, ensure that they meet relevant [Medical Devices Requirements](#) and that you are using them according to the manufacturer's direction for use.

Safe Return to Clinical Practice

The Office of the Chief Dental Officer of Canada commissioned a [report](#): *Evidence to support safe return to clinical practice by oral health professionals in Canada during the COVID 19 pandemic*. The goal of this project is to provide good quality evidence to support the development of guidelines for oral health professionals in Canada. The original report and two out of the three commissioned updated reports have now been published. A presentation on the most recent evidence can be found on this YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/MTR0MV539Q0>.

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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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