



COVID-19 Update for CDHA Members **March 25, 2021**

CDHA is Here to Help

Read our latest updates: www.cdha.ca/safetyalerts

Email us: alerts@cdha.ca

Dear member,

COVID-19 vaccine information

Health Canada's recently updated [Vaccines for COVID-19](#) page provides information on each of the approved vaccines, the approval process as well as reported side effects following COVID-19 vaccination in Canada. Health Canada has released a [statement](#) confirming that the health benefits of the AstraZeneca vaccine outweigh the risks.

NACI extends dose interval for COVID-19 vaccine

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization, in the context of limited COVID-19 supply of vaccines, is recommending that jurisdictions maximize the number of individuals benefiting from the first dose of vaccine by extending the interval for the second dose of vaccine up to four months. Read [more](#).

Reporting Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) in Canada

The Public Health Agency of Canada collects reports of adverse events following immunizations from provincial and territorial health departments, health care professionals and the pharmaceutical industry. The collected [data](#) is used to identify any adverse events that may possibly require a more in-depth investigation. To report an adverse reaction, complete the [Adverse Events following Immunization \(AEFI\) Form](#) and send it to your local Health Unit.

Evidence the UK variant is more deadly

The British Medical Journal published [new findings](#) showing that the UK variant is not only more infectious but also potentially more deadly.

THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION
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Association between periodontitis and severity of COVID-19 infection

This [study](#) helps understand the risk factors influencing the outcome of COVID-19 infections and stresses the importance of periodontal health and continuing care.

Pregnancy, COVID-19 and the vaccine

CDHA has heard concerns from members who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or considering becoming pregnant regarding COVID-19 vaccines. A [systematic review and meta-analysis](#) of the impact COVID-19 has on pregnancy outcomes was recently published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada has released the following statements to provide guidance:

- [Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnancy](#)
- [COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination and fertility](#)

CDHA recommends sharing concerns with your family doctor and/or OB/GYN.

CDHA thanks all dental hygienists who have worked tirelessly providing essential oral healthcare to Canadians during the pandemic.

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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.*