



COVID-19 Update for CDHA Members May 6, 2021

CDHA is Here to Help

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

Email us: alerts@cdha.ca

Dear member,

Results of April poll on vaccines:

Thank you to the 4,378 dental hygienists that took the time to answer our quick follow-up poll on vaccines. Here is a snapshot of comparative results from our January and April polls:

2021 Poll questions on vaccines	January results n=4689	April results n=4378
Yes, I have already received 1 dose of the vaccine.	less than 1 %	75%
Yes, I have already received both doses of the vaccine.	---	6%
Yes, I will get the vaccine immediately.	54%	6%
Yes, I will get the vaccine within the year.	18%	4%
Not sure	18%	5%
No	9%	4%

Which vaccines did dental hygienists receive?

Pfizer BioNTech	86%
Moderna	11%
AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD	2.5%

THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES HYGIÉNISTES DENTAIRES

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Here are the top 5 concerns that dental hygienists that already received at least one dose of vaccine currently have:

- Efficacy of the vaccines on the new variants of concern. (56%)
- Efficacy of the vaccines with an interval between the two doses of 4 months. (55%)
- Long-term side effects associated with vaccines. (28%)
- The possibility of needing a booster within the year. (28%)
- The risk of developing blood clots with the AstraZeneca vaccine. (17%)

Respondents that answered that they were unsure if they were going to get the vaccine and the ones that are not planning to get the vaccine were asked the following question: "What concerns do you have that prevent you from getting the COVID-19 vaccine? Here are their top 5 answers:

- Worried about the possible long-term side effects associated with the vaccine. (81%)
- Do not have enough confidence in the vaccine development process. (57%)
- Worried about the long-term efficacy of the vaccine. (51%)
- Do not think that pharmaceutical companies and governments are being transparent in the research they release to the public. (51%)
- Concerned about the risk of blood clots with the AstraZeneca vaccine. (42%)

NOTE: The full results of the poll will be available on COVID-19 section of CDHA's website shortly.

Based on the results of the poll, CDHA will continue to communicate regularly with members to disseminate the latest research on COVID-19 that will help members make informed decisions and provide up-to-date education to their clients.

CDHA seeks a legal opinion on questions relating to mandatory vaccination

Can your employer mandate you receive a COVID-19 vaccine for you to continue in your position? Can vaccination be a condition of employment for a future position you are seeking? Can you refuse vaccination?

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CDHA contracted Rudner Law to provide answers to these questions and more. Access document [here](#).

NACI Recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccines - Updated

The updated National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) [Recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccines](#) (PDF) and [Summary of updated vaccine statement](#) are now available online for your review.

Health Canada authorizes use of Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in children 12 to 15 years of age.

This is the first COVID-19 vaccine authorized in Canada for use on children. Read [more](#).

Janssen COVID-19 vaccine and the risk of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia

Similar to the AstraZeneca vaccine, Health Canada has assessed the available [data](#) on the reported events associated with the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, an adenovirus vector vaccine, and has determined that the benefits outweigh the risks of thrombosis and thrombocytopenia.

Science Table, briefing note on COVID-19 variants

The Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table is a group of scientific experts and health system leaders who evaluate and report on emerging evidence relevant to the COVID-19 pandemic. A [meta-analysis](#) including cohort studies in Ontario, the United Kingdom and Denmark showed that people infected with variants of concern had a 63% higher risk of hospitalization, a doubling of the risk of ICU admission and a 56% higher risk of all-cause death. Estimates observed in different studies and regions were completely consistent, and the B.1.1.7 variant was dominant in all three jurisdictions over the study periods.

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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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