

COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin #12

Pre-Registration, Prioritization & Vaccine Hesitancy

The purpose of the Vaccine Bulletin is to give you the latest information about COVID-19 vaccines. For this bulletin, the focus will be on the registration and booking, prioritization for vaccine roll-out, and vaccine hesitancy.

Quick Updates

- Check out [Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph's vaccination dashboard](#).
- The [total number of doses](#) that have been administered in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph is **15,546 and 6,394 vaccinations have been completed (2.5%)**.
- WDGPH has added [COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs](#) to our website.
- **87%** of long-term care and retirement home **residents** have received 2 doses of vaccine (93% have received at least one dose).
- Vaccine pre-registration information is now available on our website: www.wdgpublichealth.ca/register.
- For those who have pre-registered and received their appointment booking code, they can review the troubleshooting webpage: [how to book your vaccination appointment online](#).
- The [AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine](#) has been approved by Health Canada (more information coming soon)

Pre-registration Information for Health Care Workers

- [Pre-register for COVID-19 vaccination](#) if you are a health care worker (HCW) that meets this definition:
 - Any regulated health professionals and any staff member, contract worker, student/trainee, registered volunteer, or other essential caregiver currently working in a health care organization, including workers that are not providing direct patient care such as cleaning staff, food services staff, information technology staff, security, research staff, and other administrative staff.
 - Workers providing a healthcare service or direct patient service in a congregate, residential or community setting outside of a health care organization (e.g., nurse providing patient care in a school, worker performing personal support services in an assisted living facility, medical first responder in the community, peer worker in a shelter).

- WDGPH will use the information provided on the pre-registration form to further prioritize HCWs into sub-groups based on the Ministry of Health's [Guidance for Prioritizing Health Care Workers for COVID-19 Vaccination](#).
- Please familiarize yourself with the eligibility criteria and encourage your clients who are [eligible to pre-register](#) for the vaccine.
- For those who have pre-registered and received their appointment booking code, they can review the troubleshooting webpage: [how to book your vaccination appointment online](#).
- Individuals waiting for their vaccination appointment can review WDGPH's webpage: [preparing for your COVID-19 vaccination](#).

Prioritization for Vaccine Roll-out

- Prioritization for vaccine roll-out is determined by the Government of Ontario in combination with recommendations from the WDGPH COVID-19 Vaccine Sequence Strategy Task Force who consider the local context.
- The WDGPH Task Force is comprised of members from many sectors in the community including municipal government, business, mental health and addictions, primary care, dentistry, pharmacy, allied health professionals, academia and social justice.

Currently Eligible Groups for Pre-registration

1. Adults 80 years of age and older who reside in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph
2. Indigenous adults who reside in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph
3. Long-Term Care and/or Retirement Home Staff
4. Essential Support Staff in Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes
5. Essential Caregivers in Long-Term Care and High-Risk Retirement Homes
6. Healthcare workers in the following settings:
 - Hospitals
 - COVID-19 Response Roles (e.g., Assessment Centres, outbreak response, COVID-19 immunization clinics)
 - Medical First Responders
 - Community Healthcare workers serving specialized populations
 - Community Healthcare workers serving the general population
 - Healthcare worker in Congregate Settings

- Healthcare services for indigenous populations
- Laboratory services
- Non-acute rehabilitation and therapy

Vaccine Hesitancy

Source: [The COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Handbook](#) (available in multiple languages)

What facilitates vaccine uptake?

People are more likely to vaccinate when:

- It is convenient, free, and easy.
- They have confidence in the safety of the vaccine and trust the system that delivers it.
- **Their health care provider(s) recommend it.**
- Role models, friends and family, or others “like them” have already been vaccinated.
- People are reminded that their actions will contribute to community immunity and help others.
- People recognize the risk from the disease, and understand vaccination is an effective solution to that risk.

The importance of health care providers

- Health care provider acceptance of COVID-19 vaccines is important. Not only does it protect them, their families, friends, patients and community but their recommendation is vital to encouraging others to vaccinate, including other health care providers, friends, family, patients and the general public.
- A recommendation from a health care provider to take the COVID-19 vaccine is likely to affect the attitudes and decisions of many other people.

Reference

Lewandowsky, S., Cook, J., Schmid, P., Holford, D. L., Finn, A., Leask, J., Thomson, A., Lombardi, D., Al-Rawi, A. K., Amazeen, M. A., Anderson, E. C., Armaos, K. D., Betsch, C., Bruns, H. H. B., Ecker, U. K. H., Gavaruzzi, T., Hahn, U., Herzog, S., Juanchich, M., Kendeou, P., Newman, E. J., Pennycook, G., Rapp, D. N., Sah, S., Sinatra, G. M., Tapper, K., Vraga, E. K (2021). The COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Handbook. A practical guide for improving vaccine communication and fighting misinformation.

Available at: <https://sks.to/c19vax>

Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFIs) in Ontario

Public Health Ontario Summary Report – [AEFIs for COVID-19 in Ontario: December 13, 2020 to February 20, 2021](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Multi-Language Information Sheets

Women's College Hospital has created [multi-language information sheets](#) on the current COVID-19 vaccines.

Opportunities Available for Mass Vaccination Clinics

Paid Positions

- Physicians who are interested in providing medical emergency coverage for potential adverse reactions at mass vaccination clinics can [complete this survey](#).
- [Immunizer - Nurse \(BScN\)](#)
- [Immunizer – RPN or non-nursing](#)

Volunteer

- [Clinic Greeter](#)

Status of Doses Administered in Ontario

Total doses administered = **643,765**

Daily doses administered = **21,805**

People fully vaccinated = **258,014**

Vaccine Webinars

Upcoming

- March 16 – [Good Practice in Interactive Vaccination Communication](#) (International Federation on Aging)

Recorded

- [Vaccine Hesitancy and First Nations, Inuit, and Métis populations: Potential Implications During COVID-19](#) (NCCID and NCCIH)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines: Allergies and LDV Syringe Discussion](#) (PHAC and NCCID)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Foundational Webinar](#) (PHAC and NCCID) (*Recording available soon*)

Vaccine Resources for Health Care Providers

[Toolkit for Health Care Providers](#) (PHAC)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Questions and Answers for Healthcare Providers](#) (CANVAX)

[Learning Module - Our Best Shot at Beating COVID-19: Overcoming Vaccine Hesitancy in 2021](#) (Canadian Paediatric Society)

Immunization Partnership Fund (PHAC)

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) is inviting eligible organizations to submit letters of intent for projects focused on increasing Canadians' confidence in and access to COVID-19 vaccines and improving vaccine uptake overall. For more information about this funding opportunity, please visit the [Immunization Partnership Fund's Call for Proposals](#).

Reliable Sources of Information on Vaccines

[Public Health Agency of Canada](#)

[Government of Ontario](#)

[Public Health Ontario](#)

[Centre for Effective Practice \(CEP\)](#)

[World Health Organization](#)

[COVID-19 Studies from the World Health Organization Database](#)

[Centres for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)