

COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin #34

Vaccine Updates

Quick Updates

- The **total number of doses** administered in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (WDG) is **429,008**.
- **NEW: All individuals born in 2009** are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Important for clinical office practice:** There have been changes to vaccinated vs. not vaccinated case and contact management - review [High-risk Contact Flow Chart](#)
- **Third doses are now being offered** to individuals with [certain medical conditions](#). Health care providers can review the [Physician Advisory](#) for more information.
 - Health Care Providers who are unable to administer vaccine to their eligible patients may refer them to be immunized at a WDGP clinic by **completing the [referral form](#)**.
 - Referred patients must **bring a copy of the completed referral form to their vaccine appointment/drop-in**. See below for Vaccine Clinics available at Public Health.
- All primary care practices can order COVID-19 Vaccine for patients. [Single doses](#) are also available for your office. If your office is not yet trained/onboarded in COVax or you need a refresher, reach out to Michi.Motomura@wdgpublichealth.ca
- If you are not currently providing the COVID vaccine in your office, you may consider referring your patients to their pharmacist for vaccination as most pharmacies have vaccine available for first and second doses.
- **Additional vaccine clinics available at Public Health:**
 1. DROP-IN at any WDGP clinic site: wdgpublichealth.ca/drop-ins OR
 2. Book an appointment online: wdgpublichealth.ca/appointments OR
 3. Call the appointment booking line: **1-844-780-0202 (Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4:30pm)**

Vaccine Status for Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph

83% of residents 12+ received at least one dose	78% of residents 12+ received two doses
% received at least one dose in: Well. County = 76 Duff. County = 80 City of Guelph = 89	Total number of doses given in primary care office or pharmacy = 98,248

Age Group	First Dose	Second Dose
60+	95%	93%
50-59	86%	82%
40-49	82%	76%
30-39	80%	72%
20-29	72%	63%
12-19	77%	67%

Vaccine Updates from Ontario

Updated MOH Vaccine Administration Documents

[Vaccine Information Sheet](#)

[Vaccine Information Sheet: For Youth \(Age 12-17\)](#)

[Vaccine Screening Form](#)

[Vaccine Consent Form](#)

[Vaccine Youth \(Age 12-17\) Consent Form](#)

[Vaccination Recommendations for Special Populations](#)

Vaccinated vs. Not Vaccinated Contact & Case Management

[COVID-19 Fully Immunized and Previously Positive Individuals: Case, Contact and Outbreak Management Interim Guidance](#)

[COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#)

[High-risk Contact Flow Chart](#)

[WDGPH Guidance for After COVID-19 Testing](#)

Vaccination Policy in Health Settings

[Directive #6 for COVID-19 Vaccination Policy in Health Settings](#)

[Directive #6 Resource Guide](#)

Medical Exemptions for Vaccination

- Proof of medical exemptions to vaccination must be provided by a physician or a nurse practitioner. The note must specify whether the reason is permanent or time-limited (including how long it is expected to last).
- There are **very few** medical exemptions to COVID-19 vaccination.

Three Main Medical Exemptions

1. Severe allergy/anaphylaxis to previous dose or to any of its components

The largest group of individuals who receive a medical exception will be those with severe allergic reactions or anaphylaxis to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine or to any of its components AND who have been assessed by an allergist/immunologist to review methods for possible (re)administration of a COVID-19 vaccine. There are existing protocols to administer vaccine to individuals with other types of allergies.

2. **Diagnosed episode of myocarditis/pericarditis after receipt of an initial dose of an mRNA vaccine.**
3. **Time-limited reason due to procedure or other medical treatment**

If time-limited, the note from the physician/nurse practitioner should indicate how long it is expected to last.

Review the [Resource Guide for Directive #6](#), [Vaccine Information Sheet](#), and [Vaccine Recommendations for Special Populations](#) for more information.

Vaccine Effectiveness

Ontario Data

- Based on cases of COVID-19 reported in Ontario from December 14, 2020 to August 7, 2021, 95% of the cases were among unvaccinated individuals and 0.6% were breakthrough (fully vaccinated) cases. Furthermore, unvaccinated cases accounted for 92.5% of hospitalizations and 92.1% of deaths whereas breakthrough cases accounted for 0.8% of hospitalizations and 1.2% of deaths.

Public Health Ontario (August 2021). [Confirmed cases of COVID-19 following vaccination in Ontario: December 14, 2020 to August 7, 2021.](#)

U.S. Data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

- Three U.S. studies published by the CDC indicated that protection against COVID-19 from the vaccines declined somewhat over time but protection against severe COVID-19 and hospitalization remained strong:
 - Data from New York showed that overall age-adjusted vaccine effectiveness against new COVID-19 cases for adults declined moderately from 92% to 80% from May 3 to July 25, 2021. During that same time, vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 hospitalization remained relatively stable ranging from 92% to 95%. The study did not differentiate the independent impact of the Delta variant from other factors such as waning vaccine-induced immunity or reduction in the use of infection prevention measures (e.g., masks, physical distancing).
 - Data from residents in nursing home and long-term care facilities showed a decline in vaccine effectiveness for mRNA from 75% (March-May 2021) to 53% (June-July 2021). The study did not differentiate the independent impact of the Delta variant from other factors such as waning vaccine-induced immunity.
 - Data from patients at 21 hospitals in 18 states found that vaccine effectiveness of mRNA vaccines against hospitalization was sustained at 86% over the 6-month

surveillance period overall and was 90% effective for adults without immunocompromising conditions.

Rosenberg, E.S. et al. (2021). [*New COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Adults, by Vaccination Status – New York, May 3-July 25, 2021.*](#) Early release by Centers for Disease Control, August 18, 2021.

Srinvas, N. et al. (2021) [*Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Nursing Home Residents Before and During Widespread Circulation of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 \(Delta\) Variant – National Healthcare Safety Network, March 1-August 1, 2021.*](#) Early release by Centers for Disease Control, August 18, 2021.

Tenford, M. W. et al. (2021). [*Sustained effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines against COVID-19 Associated Hospitalizations Among Adults – United States, March-July 2021.*](#) Early release by Centers for Disease Control, August 18, 2021.

Reliable Sources of Information on Vaccines

[WDGPH Vaccine Administration Training](#)

[Public Health Agency of Canada](#)

[Government of Ontario](#)

[Ministry of Health](#)

[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 \(CDC\)](#)