



COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

Research Roundup

Your weekly review on COVID-related research



International Research Review

The role of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies in protection against reinfection

A large, national, multicentre prospective cohort study of hospital healthcare workers in the UK (SIREN) reports, in an interim analysis published in *The Lancet*, that participants who previously had SARS-CoV-2 antibodies, likely due to infection, had an 84% lower risk of (re)infection. This is comparable to the protection offered by currently approved vaccines. The protective effect was observed seven months following primary infection, although the study is still ongoing.

[Read Summary](#)

Updates on COVID-19 AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson vaccines, and risk of blood clot formation

Vaccination is the main means to control the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide. With such a massive vaccine rollout underway, monitoring the safety of these vaccines is critical and includes the routine reporting and

study of rare adverse events. We have compiled and summarized reports about the rare abnormal clotting events linked to two COVID-19 vaccines.

[Read Summary](#)



Spotlight on CITF-funded Research

Changes in immune cells in COVID patients could be a sign suggesting an unfavorable outcome

In a publication in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, Drs. Daniel Kaufmann and Andrés Finzi from Université de Montréal and collaborators, found that patients with acute SARS-CoV-2 infection have altered immune responses affecting the severity of symptoms and mortality. These findings may help clinicians identify patients at risk of unfavourable outcomes and shed light on what new therapies could seek to target.

[Read More](#)

T cell responses are also important in immunity against SARS-CoV-2

While many agree on the importance of antibodies in SARS-CoV-2 infection, T cells have also taken the spotlight as a key contributor to immunity.

Published in *The Journal of Immunology* in January, this paper, by Drs. Tania Watts and Mario Ostrowski, from University of Toronto and colleagues has made it to the journal's top 20 most read articles in March. In it, they report that SARS-CoV-2 recovered patients have strong T cell responses.

[Read More](#)



Share!

Know anybody in your network who may be interested in receiving our weekly Research Roundup? Please share this email and encourage them to subscribe!

[Sign Up](#)

Have a publication we should review or know about? Please share with us at research@covid19immunitytaskforce.ca