



**COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE**

Spotlight on **CITF-FUNDED RESEARCH**



CITF Announcements

CITF Databank: multiple study populations provide valuable data

The CITF Databank has a wide range of data from dozens of CITF-funded studies available to researchers interested in accessing SARS-CoV-2 data for their own research purposes. With individual-level data on more than 100,000 participants, study populations in the Databank include older Canadians and long-term care residents, 2SLGBTQ+ persons, teachers, those with higher risk due to health conditions, and more. Access to the data is cost-free and available to researchers everywhere.

[Read more](#)



CITF-Funded Research Results

High avidity anti-N IgG antibodies detect SARS-CoV-2 reinfections with higher specificity compared to anti-N IgG serum levels alone

A CITF-funded proof-of-principle study, published in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, found that high avidity anti-nucleocapsid (anti-N) IgG antibodies detect SARS-CoV-2 reinfections with higher specificity compared to solely measuring anti-N IgG serum levels. The authors believe this to be the first serology method to detect reinfections without the use of longitudinal blood samples, arguing that this could be useful to understand the long-term health burden of COVID-19.

[Read more](#)

Longer dose-intervals in COVID-19 vaccine series produced a more robust antibody response

A CITF-supported study, published in *Frontiers in Immunology*, found that delaying the second dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine beyond approximately three months produced a more robust antibody response, despite this being a longer timeframe than was recommended by the vaccine manufacturers.

[Read more](#)

Patients with NDD-CKD exhibit a strong humoral immune response after three COVID-19 mRNA vaccines

A CITF-funded proof-of-principle study, published in the *Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease*, found that patients with non-dialysis-dependent chronic kidney disease (NDD-CKD)—a typically understudied population—had high seropositivity rates for anti-spike and anti-RBD after three doses of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

[Read more](#)

Canadian healthcare workers assisting COVID-19 patients had higher anxiety and depression scores than pre-pandemic

A CITF-funded study, published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, found that healthcare workers (HCWs) assisting patients with COVID-19 exhibited clinically significant scores for anxiety and depression and were more likely to report the use of sleep medications, compared to pre-pandemic.

[Read more](#)

A high rate of successful intubation and a low risk of related adverse events were observed during the COVID-19 pandemic

A CITF-funded study, published in the *Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine*, found that intubation was completed successfully on the first try in 94% of cases for both COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients presenting to the emergency department. Intubation is a medical procedure where a flexible tube is placed into a person's airway, usually through the mouth or nose to help a person breathe. These findings provide reassuring evidence that intubation processes that were adapted across Canada to protect healthcare workers from exposure to SARS-CoV-2 did not compromise patient outcomes compared to pre-pandemic practices.

[Read more](#)

Blanket SARS-CoV-2 screening among those admitted to hospital for non-COVID-19 conditions not worthwhile back in 2020

A CITF-funded study, published in *BMJ Open*, found that universal COVID-19 screening over two waves in 2020 among adults admitted to hospital with a diagnosis unrelated to COVID-19 had a low diagnostic yield, meaning universal screening, at the time, would not have been justifiable as a blanket policy.

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From Preprint to Publication

The methodology of the CHILD sub-study to examine the effect of SARS-CoV-2 infection on children

The study design and cohort profile of a CITF-funded study have been published in *Epidemiology and Health*. The research aimed to examine the prevalence and predictors of SARS-CoV-2 infection and transmission, as well as the predictors of the health and psychosocial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, among Canadian children and their families.

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