



COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

Spotlight on **CITF-FUNDED RESEARCH**



CITF Events



SAVE THE DATE! December 20!

Third CITF/CanCOVID Seminar Series: Research Results & Implications:
The impact of COVID-19 disease & vaccination on pregnancy and newborns

Given the limited data on COVID-19 illness and vaccination during pregnancy, we are eager to share the latest research from three CITF-supported studies looking at the impact of SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-

19 vaccination on pregnant people and newborns. The results of these studies are already being communicated regularly to public health officials to help inform COVID-19 vaccine administration programs in Canada.

Join CITF-funded experts Dr. **Deshayne Fell** of the University of Ottawa and the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute; Dr. **Deborah Money** of the University of British Columbia and BC Women's Hospital; and Dr. **Deborah O'Connor** of the University of Toronto as they present their latest findings and discuss the policy implications, followed by a lively panel discussion and question and answer session.

Mark [Monday, December 20, 2021 11:30 am – 1:00 pm EST](#) in your calendars!

Registration link to come!



CITF-Funded Research Results

Vaccine-induced seroprevalence hits highest level to date, yet early fourth wave hitting those most at-risk: Canadian Blood Services August report

96% of Canadian blood donors have evidence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies, primarily due to vaccination, a rate that has increased from 91% in June and 95% in July. This according to Canadian Blood Services' 13th seroprevalence report, covering data from August 2021. Nonetheless, targeted efforts to alleviate infection burden and promote vaccine uptake are still required amongst racialized donors and those living in lower-income neighbourhoods, whom, over time, have consistently experienced disproportionately higher levels of infection-acquired antibodies and lower levels of vaccine-induced antibodies.

[Read More](#)

COVID-19 vaccine coverage among pregnant individuals in Ontario

In their third report, CITF-funded researcher Dr. Deshayne Fell and her team at the Better Outcomes Registry & Network (BORN) in Ontario found that 58.7% of people who were pregnant in September 2021 had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy. Since pregnant individuals are considered a high-risk population for COVID-19 complications based on higher rates of hospitalization, ICU admission, and death, compared with non-pregnant individuals, it is noteworthy that, among those pregnant in September 2021, 41.3% were still unvaccinated.

[Read More](#)



From Preprint to Publication

Social inequalities in COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and uptake for children and adolescents in Montreal

As part of their CITF-funded COVID-19 cohort study, Dr. Kate Zinszer and Dr. Caroline Quach from the Université de Montréal, along with colleagues, examined whether parents from certain socioeconomic backgrounds or racialized groups were more – or less – inclined to have their child or adolescent vaccinated. In this peer-reviewed article now published in *Vaccine*, 87.6% of parents reported that their child was vaccinated or likely to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

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