



COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

Spotlight on CITF-FUNDED RESEARCH



CITF Events



Seminar Series | Research Results & Implications

How long does immunity to COVID-19 last?

*Waning immunity, boosters,
and dosing intervals*



COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

GRUPE DE TRAVAIL
SUR L'IMMUNITÉ
FACE À LA COVID-19



CanCOVID

Thank you for making our fourth seminar with CanCOVID such a success!

Yesterday, almost 600 people attended the fourth of our monthly CITF/CanCOVID seminar series. Three CITF-funded research teams provided the most up-to-date results of their on-going research into the durability of immunity, the arguments in favour of booster vaccines, the most effective dosing intervals, and the impact of the Omicron variant.

Thanks to all who were present and **a big thank you** to our presenters: **Dr. Jeff Kwong** of ICES, Public Health Ontario and the University of Toronto, **Dr. Dawn Bowdish** and **Dr. Andrew Costa** of McMaster University, and **Dr. Victor Ferreira**, on behalf of **Dr. Deepali Kumar's** lab at the University Health Network, Toronto, **Dr. Tim Evans**, Executive Director of the CITF, and our moderator, **Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine** from the University of Saskatchewan and member of CoVaRR-Net.

[VIEW SUMMARY](#)

[VIEW PRESENTATIONS IN PDF](#)



CITF-Funded Research Results

Vaccination is more effective than prior infection at neutralizing variants of concern

CITF-funded researchers Drs. Sharon Straus, Allison McGeer, and Anne-Claude Gingras, all at the University of Toronto, are among those who contributed to this manuscript characterizing the ability of antibodies acquired via immunization, infection, or both, to neutralize Omicron. The preprint, which has not yet been peer reviewed, shows that previous infection alone does not create sufficient levels of neutralizing antibodies to protect against Omicron. Triple vaccination, however, was associated with greater levels of neutralizing antibodies against several variants, including Omicron.

[Read More](#)

Estimating pre-pandemic rates of certain medical conditions to help inform current COVID-19 vaccine safety surveillance

To help inform vaccine safety monitoring efforts, a team led by CITF-funded researcher Dr. Jeff Kwong from IC/ES, tracked the incidence of nine different medical conditions in the five years preceding the pandemic (2015-2019) and in the first year of the pandemic (2020). These estimates, called background rates, will help establish the expected incidence rates for these conditions in the population. They can then be compared with the rates following the introduction of COVID-19 vaccines and facilitate the detection of vaccine safety signals. These findings have been released in preprint, and therefore have not yet undergone peer review.

[Read More](#)



From Preprint to Publication

Incarcerated individuals face an increased risk of acquiring COVID-19

Congregate settings (such as prisons, long-term care homes) have provided opportunities for COVID-19 to flourish. As part of her CITF-funded work, Dr. Nadine Kronfli from the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre studied a cohort of incarcerated men at three provincial prisons in Quebec. She found that those with antibodies due to a SARS-CoV-2 infection was two times higher than among nonvaccinated individuals in the Montreal area. Her study has been published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*.

[Read More](#)



Share!

Know policymakers or researchers who may be interested in our latest research results? 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

Missed an issue of Research Roundup? [View back issues.](#)

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Public Health Agency of Canada.