



**COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE**

Spotlight on **CITF-FUNDED RESEARCH**



CITF Events



COVID-19
IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

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



CanCOVID

Seminar Series | Research Results & Implications

COVID-19 vaccine safety



May 5, 2022 | 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EDT

REGISTER NOW!

Our 7th CITF/CanCOVID research seminar brings together experts affiliated with the CITF to discuss vaccine safety – a topic of concern for everyone. Our presenters will report on:

- Results of ongoing vaccine safety monitoring in Canada, in both adults and children;
- Details about serious adverse effects in Canada, including their frequency after various vaccine doses;

- Measures to mitigate the occurrence of serious adverse events;
- The latest research on myocarditis and pericarditis;
- Vaccine safety in pregnant people;
- More!

Following the presentation, our experts will engage in a question-and-answer session with the attendees.

Presenters include:

- **Julie Bettinger, MPH, PhD**, Professor, University of British Columbia; Principal Investigator, Canadian National Vaccine Safety (CANVAS), Canadian Immunization Research Network (CIRN); CITF-funded researcher.
- **Scott Halperin, MD**, Professor, Dalhousie University; Principal Investigator, CIRN; member of the CITF Leadership Group and Chair of the CITF Vaccine Surveillance Working Party.
- **Jeff Kwong, MD, MSc, CCFP, FRCPC**, Senior Scientist, ICES; Scientist, Public Health Ontario; Professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto; CITF-funded researcher.
- **Karina Top, MD, MSc, FRCPC**, Associate Professor, Dalhousie University; Principal Investigator, Special Immunization Clinic (SIC) Network at CIRN; and co-PI, Canadian Immunization Monitoring Program, ACTive (IMPACT) Project; CITF-funded researcher.

And hosting on behalf of the CITF:

- **Timothy Evans, MD, PhD**, Executive Director, COVID-19 Immunity Task Force

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CITF-Funded Research Results

February's infection-acquired seropositivity rate twice that of January 2022: Canadian Blood

Services

Infection-acquired seropositivity increased throughout February 2022, averaging out to 23.7% for the month - double January's rate of 12.1% - according to data from Canadian Blood Services. Nearly a quarter of repeat donors who were unvaccinated had evidence of a recent SARS-CoV-2 infection by the end of February compared to 15.6% of repeat donors vaccinated with at least one dose. More than a third (36.3%) of donors aged 17-to-24 had infection-acquired antibodies, as had a third (33.5%) of donors belonging to a racialized group (vs. 21.2% in self-declared white donors).

[Read More](#)

Is one vaccine dose enough for individuals who have recovered from a SARS-CoV-2 infection?

New research stemming from the CITF-funded RECOVER study indicates that a two-dose primary series of vaccination is paramount for protection against COVID-19, even for those who were previously infected. Those with either no or mild symptoms, as well as anyone who happened not to generate antibodies after infection, did not mount as strong an immune response after one dose compared to individuals who experienced more intense symptoms and/or were seropositive for antibodies after recovery. Despite this, all participants, irrespective of whether they had been previously infected, elicited a robust immune response after a second dose of vaccine. The findings have been released in pre-print, therefore not peer reviewed. The study is led by Drs. Caroline Quach and H el ene Decaluwe from the Sainte-Justine University Hospital and Research Centre.

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