



COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

Spotlight on CITF-FUNDED RESEARCH



CITF Events



Seminar Series Research Results & Implications



COVID-19
IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE

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

Thank you for making our eleventh *Research Results & Implications* seminar such a success

More than 200 people attended our seminar, **People at higher risk due to other health conditions & COVID-19** on November 24.

Thanks to all who participated and a big **thank you** to our presenters: **Dr. Sasha Bernatsky** of McGill University; **Dr. Ann Burchell** of the University of Toronto; **Dr. Vinod Chandran** of the University of Toronto; **Dr. Cecilia**

Costiniuk of McGill University; **Dr. Gilaad Kaplan** of the University of Calgary; **Dr. Deepali Kumar** of the University of Toronto; **Dr. Matthew Oliver** of the University of Toronto; **Dr. Sara Wing** of St Michael's Hospital, Toronto; and our moderator, **Dr. Catherine Hankins**, Co-Chair, COVID-19 Immunity Task Force.

Now available, the slides presented by our panelists and the video of the seminar.

[See the presentation](#)

[Watch the video](#)



CITF-Funded Research Results

Infection-acquired seroprevalence increases moderately in early October: Canadian Blood Services

According to Canadian Blood Services, the infection-acquired antibody rate increased moderately from 65.4% in the last week of September to 66.3% by mid-October, consistent with the continued circulation of Omicron subvariants. Seroprevalence due to infection surpassed 80% among young donors (17-24 years of age) and 70% among the most materially deprived.

[Read more](#)

Study confirms risk of myocarditis/pericarditis after a second dose of COVID-19 vaccine is rare

CITF-funded researchers published a paper in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* that evaluated the odds of developing myocarditis or pericarditis as a result of receiving either the Pfizer or Moderna mRNA vaccines against COVID-19. From a sample of more than 3 million people, a total of 59 cases of myocarditis and 41 pericarditis events were observed, affirming the rarity of this particular side effect.

[Read more](#)

Timely surveillance of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) cases in children showed recent increased circulation

In a preprint, not yet peer-reviewed, CITF-funded research found that children have been more vulnerable to respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) following a lull while protective measures were in place at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The median age of those infected with RSV was higher in 2020-21 compared to 2017-20, but the more recent cases were not more severe.

[Read more](#)

Seroprevalence and COVID-19 vaccination among correctional workers in Quebec

A CITF-funded study, published in *Frontiers in Public Health*, showed that of all correctional workers in Quebec provincial prisons, correctional officers were most likely to have acquired SARS-CoV-2 but least likely to be vaccinated. These findings underscore the importance of addressing both occupational risks and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy to mitigate future outbreaks in correctional facilities.

[Read more](#)

COVID-19 vaccine coverage continues to be lower among pregnant people than within the general Ontario population

78% of pregnant individuals had received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy by the end of September 2022, according to the sixth report from the CITF-funded Better Outcomes Registry and Network (BORN) Ontario. This is lower compared to the vaccination rate within the general female population of reproductive age in Ontario, among whom approximately 89% had received at least one vaccine

dose by September 2022.

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