COVID Talks for Docs #6
Vaccination Update

Webinar Series:
Maintaining and Optimizing Your Practice During Times of Rapid Change

We will be starting the session promptly at 12:00 PM
COVID Talks for DOCS #6: Vaccination Update

March 17th 2021

Dr. Ernst Greyvenstein
Dr. Jia Hu
Dr. Brad Bahler
Dr. Sharron Spicer (Moderator)

Zoom technical support
(+1.888.799.9666 ext 2)
Live Recording

- Privacy Statement: Please note that the webinar you are participating in is being recorded. By participating, you understand and consent to the webinar being made publicly available via a link on the AMA website for an undetermined length of time.

- By participating in the chat and live Q&A, your name entered into the Zoom sign-in may be visible to other participants during the webinar and/or in the recording.
We would like to recognize that we are webcasting from, and to, many different parts of Alberta today. The province of Alberta is located on Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8 territory and is a traditional meeting ground and home for many Indigenous Peoples.
Disclosure of Financial Support

This program has not received any financial or in-kind support.
Presenter Disclosures

- Ernst Greyvenstein: No Disclosures
- Brad Bahler: AMA-physician contractor
- Jia Hu: Cleveland Clinic Canada - Advisory; CIHR, NSERC, Alberta Innovates and Pharmaceutical - research and operational funding; No honoraria
- Sharron Spicer: AMA-physician contractor
This webinar will respond to common and emerging questions from primary care and other generalist physicians (i.e., pediatricians, internal medicine) about the COVID-19 vaccination planning. Participants will have time to ask questions related to managing patient and practice needs during COVID-19, including:

- What’s new with Alberta’s vaccine distribution plan?
- How can I help my patients get their vaccination?
At the end of this session participants will be able to:

● Apply Alberta’s prioritization to identify vulnerable at-risk patients eligible for COVID vaccination

● Identify three roles that community physicians can play in supporting COVID vaccination.
Primary Care Roles in Vaccine Promotion and Distribution

Dr. Ernst Greyvenstein
## Timeline - Physician Involvement in Advancing Covid Care

### March 2020 - June 2020

**Advocacy**
- Partnership Discussions
- PCN Task Force

**Education**
- COVID Webinars
- Zonal Webinars

**Coordination**
- Community Supports Rollout Committee
- Zone Committees
- 19-Zero Coalition
- Grant Funding Applications

**Communications**
- President Letters / Email
- Website/Social Media

### September 2020 - December 2020

**Advocacy**
- PLE Letter
- AMA Letter
- Joint Statement
- Prioritization of vaccines for Comm. Phys.

**Education**
- COVID Webinars
- Zonal Webinars
- COVID Toolkit

**Coordination**

**Communications**

### March 2021

**Advocacy**
- EOI Launched
- EOI

**Education**
- Response to Member Questions

**Coordination**

**Communications**

Expression of Interest - As of March 15

Total EOIs received

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Option 1: AHS Rapid Flow Site</th>
<th>Option 2: Physician Clinic Site or Partner Site</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Total EOI received: 437</td>
<td>539</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapid Flow Participants: 351</td>
<td>429</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposed Clinical Arrangements: 145</td>
<td>209</td>
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59 Applied to Both Options

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Red Deer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>Medicine Hat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lethbridge</td>
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<td>Grande Prairie</td>
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<td>Fort McMurray</td>
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<td>Calgary</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Clinics</th>
<th>Daily Dose Capacity</th>
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<td>Central</td>
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<td>735</td>
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<td>South</td>
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<td>710</td>
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<td>Calgary</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>145</strong></td>
<td><strong>12613</strong></td>
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16 223
Expression of Interest -
As of March 10

Alberta COVID-19 pharmacy immunization program:
What’s Next

- Bulletin - temporary Vaccine code
- Engage Zone and PCN’s to support practices promote and deliver vaccinations based on their readiness
- Continue providing CME - Covid Talk for Docs
- Close coordination with partner organizations
- Communicate, communicate, communicate
Vaccine Rollout and Challenges

Dr. Jia Hu
## COVID-19 Vaccines for Canada

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Effectiveness in preventing COVID-19 Severe Illness</th>
<th>Efficacy against Symptoms</th>
<th>Authorization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>95%+ effectiveness</td>
<td>95% efficacy (≥7 days after 2nd dose) vs PCR+ infection</td>
<td>✓ Dec 9, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderna</td>
<td>95%+ effectiveness</td>
<td>94% efficacy (≥14 days after 2nd dose) vs PCR+ infection</td>
<td>✓ Dec 23, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>AstraZeneca Verity Pharma</td>
<td>80 - 90% effectiveness</td>
<td>63% overall efficacy (post 2nd dose) vs PCR+ infection 82% if 2nd dose after 12 weeks</td>
<td>✓ Feb 26, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janssen/Johnson &amp; Johnson</td>
<td>85% effectiveness</td>
<td>66% overall efficacy vs PCR+ and moderate/severe disease</td>
<td>✓ Mar 5, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Novavax</td>
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<td>Press release: 89% efficacy in UK, &gt;50% variants; 49% efficacy in South Africa, &gt;90% variants, 6% HIV+</td>
<td>Submitted Jan 29, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicago GSK</td>
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<td>Phase 2-3 RCTs have commenced</td>
<td>Not submitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanofi &amp; GSK</td>
<td></td>
<td>Phase 1-2 trials – initial dose was not effective</td>
<td>Not submitted</td>
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Vaccine Prioritization & Logistics

Alberta uses a prioritization process that considers:

1. **Risk of getting COVID-19 & if one has COVID-19 likelihood of severe disease**
2. Risk of transmitting to others
3. Health systems capacity (e.g., for ICU/ED staff)
   - AB indexes most heavily on (1); Other provinces have different prioritizations - which is okay
   - Vaccine will be available through public health, pharmacies, family doctors (all being built/scaled currently as we see dramatic ramp in supply)
Phase 2A: Started March 15 - Who’s eligible?

- Albertans born 1947 to 1956 (turning 65 to 74), no matter where they live
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) people born 1971 or earlier (turning 50+), no matter where they live
- Staff and residents of licensed seniors supportive living facilities not included in Phase 1
Phase 2B: April to June - Who’s eligible?

Albertans born 2005 to 1957 (16 to 64) with any one of the following high-risk underlying health conditions:

- Asplenia or dysfunction of the spleen
- Cancer
- Chronic heart and vascular disease, not including high blood pressure alone
- Chronic kidney diseases requiring regular medical monitoring or treatment
- Chronic Liver disease due to any cause
- Chronic neurological disease
- Chronic respiratory diseases, not including mild or well-controlled asthma
- Diabetes requiring insulin or other anti-diabetic medication to control
- Imunosuppression
- Pregnancy
- Severe mental Illness or substance use disorder requiring a hospital stay during the past year
- Severe obesity (BMI of 40 kg/m2 or more)
- Severe or profound learning disabilities or severe developmental delay, not including ADHD
- Solid organ, bone marrow or stem cell transplant recipients
Phase 2B: April to June

• A detailed clinical breakdown of eligible conditions in phase 2B is available here:

• A doctor’s or pharmacist’s note is not required to get the vaccine. However, patients may want to talk to their doctor or pharmacist to help them understand if their condition is on this list.

• If someone qualifies for multiple vaccine programs - you have a choice...
Phase 2C: April to June. Who’s eligible?

• Health-care workers working in patient care facilities or providing direct patient care in the community, including: physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists and all other regulated health care professionals and their office or support staff.

• Residents and support staff at eligible congregate living and work settings at risk for large outbreaks.

• Anyone working in patient care facilities or providing services directly to clients in the community for AHS, Covenant Health, APL, DynaLife, & practicum students.

• Healthcare workers on First Nation reserves.

• Caregivers of Albertans who are most at risk of severe outcomes.
Vaccine Acceptance & Hesitancy
WILLINGNESS TO BE VACCINATED

Just over half of Canadians currently willing to get the vaccine right away

Angus Reid, 2020 | Base: Total (n=1,580)
Vaccine hesitators are more likely to be:

- 18-34 years old
- A visible minority
- Have children
- Have a household income < $40k/yr
- Unsure of vaccine safety

People who completely oppose the vaccine are more likely to be:

- 18-34
- Believe vaccines are harmful
- Work in construction/manufacturing
Toolkits

Dr. Brad Bahler
Be a Vaccine Positive Clinic - Toolkit

www.albertadoctors.org/BacktheVax

- Easy to navigate web-based format
- Practical content relevant to physicians & teams
- Curated evidence-based information from multiple sources
- Regularly updated to ensure accurate and relevant information
- Example tools that can be easily revised and implemented in your practice
What’s in the Toolkit?

- Evidence and information on vaccine safety and efficacy for practice teams
- Patient materials to inform them about the vaccines
- Considerations for vaccinating special populations
- Information about reporting adverse events
- Materials to support vaccine promotion
- Scripts and EMR tools to address vaccine hesitancy
Be a Vaccine Positive Clinic

Family physicians and their teams are best suited to educate patients about the importance of getting vaccinated. You can address fear and trepidation around vaccine hesitancy, identify patients at risk of serious outcomes with COVID-19 infection and reach out to patients when they are eligible to receive a vaccine. You know your patients and their story, they trust you to take care of them. When you know the patients, they listen to you.

A toolkit has been developed to support family physicians and practice teams in conversations with patients about the COVID-19 vaccine with relevant and practical information. The information contained in this toolkit is updated frequently and we encourage you to check back regularly for the most up-to-date information.

Dr. Adam Vyse, a family physician from High River, explains the value of primary care in the COVID-19 vaccination program.
This toolkit is divided into three sections

**Be informed**
Many patients and health care providers have doubts about vaccination safety and efficacy. Here you will find key information for providers, including: evidence and information on vaccine safety, vaccinating special populations, reporting adverse events, and more.

**Be visible**
Materials to support clinics to become leaders in vaccine promotion, including patient materials, example videos, images and social media posts.

**Accelerate uptake**
Scripts and EMR tools for primary care providers and their teams to address and document vaccine hesitancy and uptake.

The toolkit includes content and links from our partners, including the Government of Canada, Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, the Centre for Effective Practice, 19 to Zero, the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta, the Alberta College of Family Physicians and more.

- **Acknowledgements**

**Questions**
If you have any questions about this toolkit, please email backthevax@albertadoctors.org.
https://covidtoolkit.ca/

- Online toolkit to support COVID vaccinations
  - Tools to inform and identify patients eligible for vaccine
  - Tools to help plan community based vaccination clinic
  - Tools to support running the vaccine clinic
  - Tools for following up with patients
Primary Care COVID-19 Immunization Toolkit

Look through the following sections of the Toolkit:

**INFORM AND IDENTIFY ELIGIBLE PATIENTS**
- COVID Information & Vaccine Status
- Engage Vaccine Hesitant Patients
- Update Your Patients
- Identify Eligible Patients
- Focus on Key Populations

**PLAN YOUR IMMUNIZATION CLINIC**
- Determine Your Capacity for Immunization Clinics
- Prepare For Your Immunization Clinic
- Book Patients and Provide Pre-Clinic Orientation
Upcoming Webinars

March 31: AMA COVID Talks for Docs #7: Long COVID: https://www.albertadoctors.org/services/media-publications/webinars-online-learning

March 23: CFPC Vaccine Update, Part II: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSfRoDWWLNM
Evaluation Link &
CME Credits

Evaluation Link:

CME Credits:

- Specialist physicians can only claim their credits *once* at the end of the webinar series
- Family physicians can claim their credits individually after each webinar using the following session IDs. Please note that it may take two weeks or more to show in your member portal.

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<td>January 20/27 2021</td>
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