



Association of Medical Microbiology
and Infectious Disease Canada

l'Association pour la microbiologie
médicale et l'infectiologie Canada

AMMI Canada urges political leaders and healthcare organizations across Canada to make COVID-19 vaccination a condition of employment for healthcare workers.

(September 8, 2021) - COVID-19 continues to impact our lives and our healthcare system. COVID-19 outbreaks have occurred in numerous hospitals and long-term care facilities across the country, affecting patients and their loved ones, healthcare workers, and the broader community. As we enter the fourth wave of the pandemic, urgent action is needed to safeguard our healthcare system and to protect patients and long-term care residents from acquiring this infection while they receive care and to protect healthcare workers from acquiring COVID-19 while they provide care.

While the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines has generally been excellent among Canadian healthcare workers, some have not received the vaccine and others have received only one of the recommended two doses. The members of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI) Canada believe that more should be done. In order to protect Canadians, AMMI Canada is joining a growing list of professional associations in Canada and the United States in recommending mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible health care workers (HCW).

COVID-19 vaccines available in Canada are very safe and effective at preventing infection and serious sequelae from SARS-CoV-2 in most individuals, including to the current circulating variants of concern (VOC). ([NACI statement](#)). Real world evidence confirms vaccine effectiveness, with fewer infections, fewer deaths, and fewer outbreaks in long-term care facilities. More than 95% of hospitalizations for COVID-19 in Canada now are in those who are not fully vaccinated (<https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/epidemiological-summary-covid-19-cases.html#a9>). Vaccinating health care workers reduces the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, which protects our patients, long-term care residents, and our healthcare workforce.

AMMI Canada is making this strong recommendation because it will save lives. Patients have a right to receive safe care and long-term care residents have a right to a safe home. AMMI Canada urges political leaders and healthcare organizations across Canada to make COVID-19 vaccination a condition of employment for healthcare workers.

About AMMI Canada

The Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (AMMI) Canada is the national association representing physicians, clinical microbiologists and researchers specializing in the fields of medical microbiology and infectious diseases.

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