



MARCH 2022

COVID IMMUNITY STUDY NEWSLETTER

Official Study Newsletter for Long-Term Care, Assisted Living & Retirement Homes

Study Overview:

- The pandemic has had a major impact on the health and well-being of residents, their families, and team members. In fact, most COVID-19 deaths in Canada have occurred in residents of care homes (e.g. long-term care & assisted living) and retirement homes.
- Our goal is to understand how vaccines can help keep residents safe and healthy so that we can get back to the way things used to be sooner.
- Over 1100 residents from 25 homes across Ontario are helping us with this research.
- Together, we are fighting COVID-19!

Study Objectives

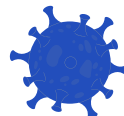
- ✓ Determine how well vaccines work in care homes.
- ✓ Discover if a resident's immune system or past infections can protect them against infection.
- ✓ Understand factors associated with COVID-19 outbreaks in care homes.

What we've learned so far and why it matters



Waning Immunity

The effect of the 3rd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine begins to wane after 3 months.



Omicron Variant

Omicron is highly transmissible & can cause infections even in vaccinated individuals. A 4th dose may help prevent severe illness.



Protect Others

Being vaccinated will help protect our most vulnerable population.

This is why it's important to get the 4th dose





Study Facts

STUDY RECRUITMENT IS COMPLETE.
DATA COLLECTION IS ONGOING.

COVID-19 Saliva Surveillance Testing:

We invited visitors, team members and residents from 18 homes to submit saliva samples weekly. These samples were used to identify COVID-19 infections, much like the rapid tests now. Over 3500 samples were collected over 33 weeks! This portion of the study is now complete.

What Were the Saliva Findings?

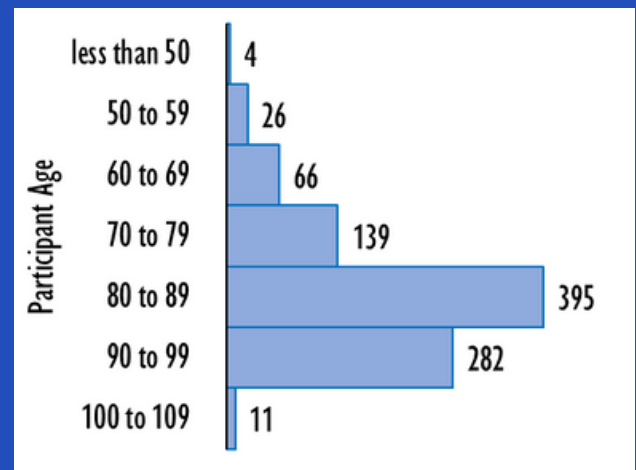
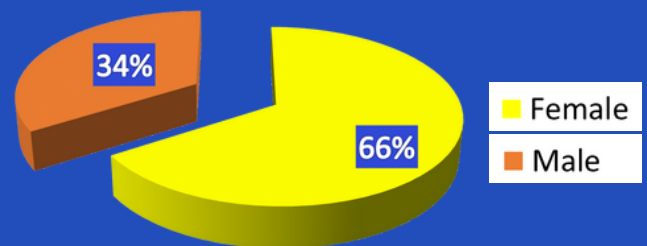
No COVID-19 infections were identified through the saliva testing! 👍

What does this mean?

- This means that all participants were negative for COVID-19 at the time of testing.
- Rapid testing is working great as a COVID-19 screening tool.

Resident COVID-19 Immunity Testing:

Each month we will share more study results with you. This month we want to share demographic information about our participants:



Want More Study Information and Updates?

Visit the study station at participating homes to learn more about what's new and upcoming with the study.

Celebrating YOU!

Thank you to the residents of these homes that are participating in this study!

- St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph
- St. Joseph's Villa, Sudbury
- The Village of Erin Meadows
- Fairview Nursing Home
- The Village of Aspen Lake
- St. Joseph's Lifecare Centre Brantford
- Finlandia Hoivakoti
- The Village of Sandalwood Park
- The Village of Humber Heights
- The Village of Tauton Mills
- St. Joseph's Villa, Dundas
- St. Gabriel's Villa, Sudbury
- Hamilton Continuing Care
- The Village at University Gates
- Pinehaven Nursing Home
- Shalom Village
- Amica, Unionville
- The Village of Tansley Woods
- The Village of Wentworth Heights
- The Village of Winston Park

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**LET'S FIGHT TO STOP
COVID TOGETHER**

