





APRIL 2022

# COVID IMMUNITY STUDY NEWSLETTER

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



## Study Updates:

- ✓ Participant antibody reports are being distributed. 
- ✓ The protocol is adapting to continue monitoring vaccine effectiveness - Research Coordinators will be reaching out with more information.
- ✓ A saliva antibody test will be added to the protocol for those who can/want to spit into a tube. 

*"I got my booster shot as soon as I could. I need to stay healthy for myself and my family"*



**-Dr. Dawn Bowdish,  
Professor of Pathology  
and Molecular Medicine  
McMaster University**



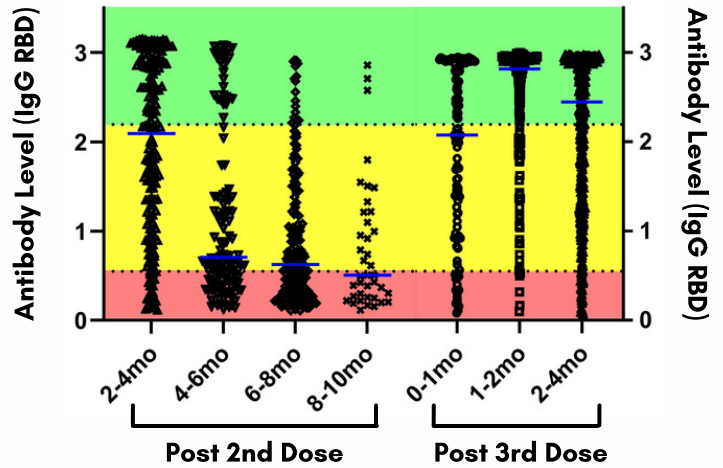
# Frequently Asked Questions



## What is an Antibody?

- An antibody is a "Y" shaped protein used by the immune system to fight off infections such as COVID-19.
- Our study reports on an antibody called IgG RBD (immunoglobulin G, Receptor Binding Domain).
- By studying IgG RBD antibodies, we are able to estimate how well an individual is protected against COVID-19 infections.
- The image to the right depicts the colour zones our participants have been categorized into using post 2nd and 3rd dose collection time points, based on IgG RBD data.

Antibody Levels for Long-term Care, Retirement, and Assisted Living Residents



	Median, which means 50% of participants are above and below this line
Green Zone:	Antibody responses are similar to young, healthy individuals. Very likely to be protected from severe infection.
Yellow Zone:	Some antibodies, but not as high as young, healthy individuals. Likely to be protected from severe infection.
Red Zone:	No detectable antibody response; very low protection.

## 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.

Phone: 289-639-9588  
 Email: covidltc@mcmaster.ca  
 Website: covidinltc.ca  
 Socials: @covidinltc

### LET'S FIGHT TO STOP COVID TOGETHER

