



OCTOBER 2022

COVID IMMUNITY STUDY NEWSLETTER

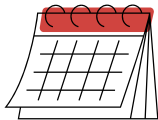
Official Study Newsletter for Participating Long-Term Care, Assisted Living & Retirement Homes

Study Updates



We are still recruiting! Visit the study station to learn more.

We are hosting two town halls on Oct 19th & 20th for all residents, family, and staff. Register at www.covidinltc.ca/townhall



Resident Spotlight



Jeannette. C
Resident at The Village
at University Gates

Why did you choose to participate in the study?

"I think we need to find out what's happening so the medical professionals can find out how to deal with things like COVID."

The 5th dose is available, and that's a great thing!

"The vaccines are working, but their protection doesn't last forever. Also, the virus is changing. The new vaccine will help us stay even more protected from Omicron. Each time the virus has a big change (mutation), we will probably need a new vaccine just like we do with the flu vaccine."



Dr. Dawn Bowdich

Professor and Canadian Research Chair in Aging & Immunity,
Department of Medicine, McMaster University
Executive Director, Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health,
St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton

Why do we need a new COVID-19 vaccine?

The original COVID-19 vaccine:

- has helped give us immunity, but that immunity doesn't last forever. (see Figure 1)
- was designed for the original virus, before it changed (mutated) to become the Omicron variant.

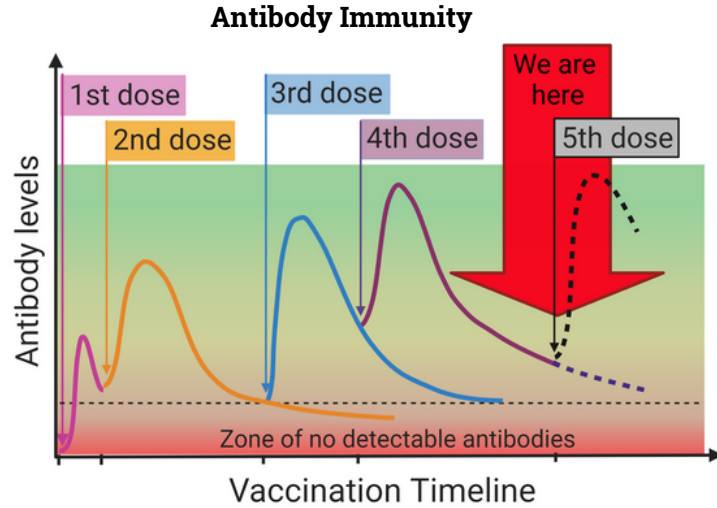


Figure 1: Waning (decrease) of immunity with time after each COVID-19 vaccine. (thick dotted lines show expected immunity)

Uptake of flu and COVID-19 Vaccines

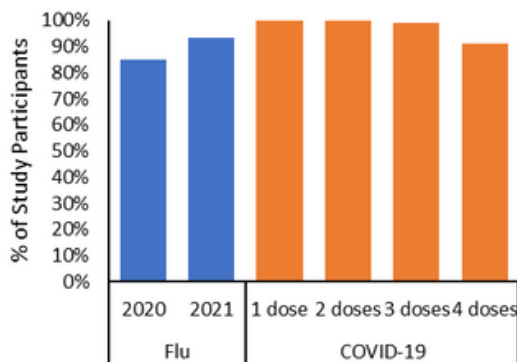


Figure 2: % of participants who have been vaccinated with the flu and COVID-19 vaccines

- Just as we need a new flu vaccine each year because the flu virus mutates, ***we will likely need new COVID-19 vaccines periodically, and that's okay.*** (see Figure 2)
- Your participation in this study, and the knowledge that we are gathering from your contributions, is helping the scientific community learn more about vaccine effectiveness.

**On behalf of the entire study team,
THANK YOU!**

Want More Study Information and Updates?

Visit the study station on Main Street at participating villages or visit our website at www.covidinltc.ca to learn more about our study.

Phone: 289-639-9588

Email: covidltc@mcmaster.ca

Website: www.covidinltc.ca

Socials: @covidinltc

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

