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July 14, 2021

The purpose of *VaxFacts* is to share credible and up to date information about the COVID-19 vaccine from Canadian sources to help the conversations you are having with children, youth and families. If you have a resource or event that you think the sector would benefit from, send it to us via covid19@oacas.org and don't hesitate to share this email.

Check out oacas.org/EveryShotCounts for a collection of the best resources from previous editions of *VaxFacts* and more!

Recent News

- A comment this week by the World Health Organization (WHO) about mixing mRNA vaccines was taken out of context by a news outlet and caused some media furor that has since been clarified. Read about it [here](#) and know that the real world evidence supports mixing vaccines as authorized.
- Efforts to fully vaccinate as many people aged 12+ as possible to fight the [Delta variant](#) and stay on the path of reopening continue. Still looking for a

shot? The provincial system continues to add appointments for most PHUs via the [vaccine booking system](#) or the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900. For general inquiries, individuals can call the Provincial Vaccine Information Line at 1-888-999-6488 or TTY service is available by calling [1-866-797-0007](#).

- We previously shared the Public Health Agency of Canada's [guidance](#) on the safety of activities based on vaccination status. It was helpful, but left out how families with children under 12 (who can't yet be vaccinated) should act. *Science Up First/LaScienceDabord* adapted the table for families. You can access it [here](#) in English and French or on Instagram [here](#) in English or [here](#) in French.
- If you'd like a more detailed, personalized assessment based on your plans, you can try this "risk calculator," available in both [French](#) and [English](#).

Save the dates!

- Join us on **July 21 from 12:30-2 PM EST** as Dr. Upton Allen, Head of the Department of Infectious Diseases at the Hospital for Sick Children and member of the Black Scientists' Task Force on Vaccine Equity, speaks with Keishia Facey, Program Lead for the One Vision One Voice Program, in a session dedicated to COVID-19 vaccines for Black children and youth.

We know that vaccine hesitancy is a real concern for the Black community and may factor into the discussions child welfare staff and caregivers are having with youth about getting vaccinated. Join us to hear first-hand from one of Canada's leading, trusted experts on vaccine hesitancy and learn the most up-to-date information about the COVID-19 vaccines to help guide the conversations you are having with Black children, youth, and families.

Please share this invitation with staff and caregivers. Participants can join the session on Zoom [here](#). If you are unable to attend, this webinar will be recorded and posted [here](#) after the event.

If you would like to submit a question in advance, please submit it to covid19@oacas.org by July 19 at 5 PM.

- On July 27, in partnership with Sick Kids, Anishnawbe Health Toronto, and the Toronto-based child welfare organizations, we are hosting another COVID-19 vaccine clinic for young people connected to child welfare. This barrier-free clinic is open to anyone irrespective of their address or which agency they work with. Join us from 1 to 4:30 PM at 20 De Boers in North York for fun, food, and Pfizer! Please [share the clinic details](#) with anyone who might be interested and eligible to attend.

About the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies:

Since 1912, OACAS has represented Ontario's Children's Aid Societies in Ontario and provided service in the areas of government relations, communications, information management, education and training to advocate for the protection and well-being of children.

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