



Ontario Association of  
Children's Aid Societies

# VAX FACTS

every  
shot  
counts



**September 29, 2021**

The purpose of *VaxFacts* is to share credible and up to date information about the COVID-19 vaccine to assist with 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](mailto:covid19@oacas.org) and don't hesitate to share this email.

Check out [oacas.org/EveryShotCounts](https://oacas.org/EveryShotCounts) for a collection of the best resources from previous editions of *VaxFacts* and more.

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## Recent News

- The Ontario Science Table released its latest [modelling](#) yesterday. The key findings of which are as follows:
  - New cases, hospitalizations and ICU occupancy are not increasing. There is a wide range for case projections, reflecting the fragile situation and high degree of instability as colder weather approaches with more time indoors.
  - Continued control over case growth requires high vaccination rates in the eligible population, continued public health measures, and a flattening of growth in mobility.

- The risk of contracting COVID-19, being hospitalized for COVID-19, and entering the ICU is several times higher for unvaccinated individuals.
  - Vaccination coverage is increasing slowly.
  - Post COVID-19 Condition – or “Long COVID” – will substantially impact the health of thousands of Ontarians.
- If you know someone who is considering vaccination but has questions, access our name twin (!), *VaxFacts*, run by Scarborough Health Network for free, unbiased information from an expert. You can read more about their service and book an appointment [here](#).
- This week NACI updated their [recommendations](#) around vaccine spacing. NACI now recommends that: *COVID-19 vaccines may be given at the same time as, or any time before or after, other vaccines, including live, non-live, adjuvanted or unadjuvanted vaccines*. This will allow for catch up vaccines and flu shots to be more seamlessly administered. (That’s right, flu season is coming up! Flu vaccines are expected to become available in the next few weeks).
- Mandatory vaccine policies and vaccine “passports” continue to be in the news. The Ontario Human Rights Commission issued a policy statement on September 22, about the same where they underline that personal preferences and singular beliefs are not protected and support the need to accommodate those that cannot receive a vaccination for medical reasons. Read their statement in full [here](#).
- On the topic of medical exemptions, the University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy, released a helpful explainer about what qualifies as a medical exemption and why. You can read it [here](#).

## 5-11-year old's

- We covered the latest news on progress on this [last week](#) but wanted to flag that this week saw the beginning of lots of planning, across the province to be ready to roll out an effective immunization campaign when vaccines for this age group become available. OACAS continues to represent the sector at the Children’s Vaccine Table to help amplify the needs of children and families that intersect with child welfare.

- Planning is also underway at OACAS to bring you access to learning opportunities and resources to support your work with this age group. Stay tuned!

**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.

## Connect with Us

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