

COVID-19 Vaccination Education Checklist

Section A: Immunization

Initial	<i>The patient or substitute decision maker indicates understanding of each of the education points listed below by placing their initial beside each section.</i>
	The COVID-19 vaccinations are safe and effective in patients with end-stage organ failure. Vaccines approved by Health Canada have been shown to be very effective in the general population. All of the approved vaccines were shown to be effective in preventing severe COVID-19 infection.
	Pre-transplant COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for almost all recipients. Like with all vaccines, recipients need to consider the risk and benefits. So far studies in transplant recipients have shown that the vaccines are very protective and are safe with side effects that are no different in transplant recipients than the general public. Since the risk of serious disease is higher in unvaccinated transplant patients, it is recommended that all transplant recipients get the vaccine.
	If you do not get your vaccine until after your transplant, the chance of getting a beneficial vaccine response after transplant is much lower. This is because you will be on anti-rejection drugs that dampen and reduce your immune response. Like most other vaccines, the COVID-19 vaccine is much more effective if received before transplant.
	COVID in transplant recipients can be unpredictable. Several organ transplant recipients have developed COVID-19. While some have had only mild symptom, others have had a severe illness requiring admission to intensive care unit. There have also been deaths in transplant recipients as a result of COVID-19. Generally, transplant recipients have had worse outcomes to COVID-19 than the general public, but newer treatments have improved outcomes. COVID-19 disease may be worse in some transplant recipients because of the other medical conditions that they may also have (for example diabetes).
	If you are not vaccinated and you get COVID-19, your risk of becoming very ill or dying is higher than the general public. Similar to other virus infections, COVID-19 infection can cause a more severe illness in transplant recipients. It is difficult to say how common COVID-19 is among transplants – we are only able to track recipients who report to us that they have tested positive for COVID-19. However, based on the information we have, we know that transplant recipients who get COVID-19 have an increased chance of being hospitalized and are at a higher risk of dying compared to the general public. While this is improving with less severe variants, early diagnosis and better treatments, transplant patients remain at a higher risk. Patients at the greatest risk of death are those who have not been fully vaccinated or patients with other conditions such as diabetes and heart disease. At this time, COVID-19 is the second leading cause of death in Canada, after ischemic heart disease
	Among patients with end-stage kidney disease, patients that are wait listed for kidney transplantation and eventually undergo transplantation experience improved long-term survival in comparison with those who remain on dialysis.
	Patients who transfer their care to another transplant centre may experience longer wait times for a deceased donor transplant depending on the geographical region the centre is located in.

I, Patient Name , have had the nature of the immunization explained to me including the expected benefits. I have been advised of the risks and side effects of the immunization and the consequences and risks of not proceeding with the proposed vaccination. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the immunization and have had my questions answered to my satisfaction. I understand the information provided to me. I have decided NOT to receive the recommended COVID-19 vaccination.

I hereby release London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), its directors, officers, employees and independent health practitioners, including physicians with privileges at LHSC, from all liability related to negative outcomes, complications or unfavourable results, including death, that occur and may be a result of my refusal of obtaining the recommended COVID-19 vaccination.

YYYY / MM / DD
Date

Signature of Patient or Substitute Decision Maker



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Section B: For completion by the Health Practitioner Proposing the Vaccination

I, Name of Health Practitioner , am the health practitioner providing the immunization education noted above. I have explained the nature of the immunization, the expected benefits, material risks and material side effects to the patient/substitute decision maker. I have answered all the questions of the patient/substitute decision maker to the best of my ability.

____ / ____ / ____

Date

Signature of Health Practitioner