



## Facebook Q&A Session – COVID Vaccine

Question:	Answer:
<p><i>The Health depts., media, etc should clearly state to the public FDA info - that presently there is no FDA approved vaccine to prevent covid. Covid vaccines are not FDA approved and are only approved for EUA (Emergency Use Authorization). And that It "may" [note "may" help] prevent you from getting covid and "may" not protect everyone. Covid clinical trials [experimental] phase 3, the vaccine is... administered to thousands of people... and generates critical information...FDA web/ Most people think that the vaccine is fully approved and that it stops them from getting Covid. So Health Depts etc need to inform the public about the facts to clear this misconception./ So will the Health Depts, media etc abide by FDA direction to inform the public of this info on Covid EUA vax? I have never heard this FDA facts info on news media. Nope to me, the media imples that it is totally effective &amp; approved. So on that premise folks get the covid experimental vaccine. Your choice. But to make an informed decision we need facts. But once and if the experimental covid vax is fully approved then more folks would get it I think. But for "trials/ experimental" nope for a lot. Others chance it. For more info see FDA/CDC web</i></p> <p><i>I've heard that vaccines are only approved for emergency use by the FDA and they are still considered to be an experimental clinical trial. Will the Health authorities be informing residents of this before getting vaccinated?</i></p> <p><i>How can they legally force an experimental covid vaccine on people when the vax is not FDA fully approved and only approved for EUA ( Emergency Use Auth)? In the</i></p>	<p>The DHSS is not recommending that any person participate in a clinical trial unless they choose to do so. It is extremely important that Canadians know that the COVID shots are fully tested, trialed, and approved (more details on that below), and that suggestions that this is a trial are absolutely and verifiably false. This is a dangerous narrative that needs to be more well understood.</p> <p>There are two differing systems for vaccine approval in Canada and the United States. When a medication is manufactured in the United States and approved for Emergency Use, there are a few distinctions between that process and the standard process. In standard vaccine manufacturing processes, all animal and human trials, all safety tests, all effectiveness tests, must be completed before manufacturing may begin. When a medication is granted emergency use authorization, the company may begin manufacturing it while the trial phase is ongoing. This does not mean that those tests and trials don't matter. It means that the company takes a chance on manufacturing something that may not pass final approvals. If they do, and it doesn't, that product gets destroyed, and they have to start over. The company takes on a significant financial burden for this, which is why health authorities typically take on the legal liability in their stead.</p> <p>In Canada, vaccines are approved by Health Canada and in the case of COVID-19 vaccines they were fast-tracked through the same approval process all vaccines are put through. The difference is how they prioritized and dedicated extra resources to review the testing and safety data, on a consistent basis, until all tests were passed.</p>

<p><i>approval process it is in phase 3 of trials or testing on the population. Info from FDA web. If it was a fully approved vax that is a different story. But it is presently only in the experimental trial testing on the population stage</i></p>	<p>All the same standards for approval of other vaccines were met – they just put more resources in place to ensure this happened quickly, basically an "all hands-on deck" approach. It's not possible to do this process for every new type of medication due to limits on resources. Addressing the pandemic is a priority and the quality of the monitoring was up to Canada's normal standards, and they were able to move quickly through parts of the process that would normally take longer.</p>
<p><i>Are we going to have to get a COVID shot every year, like the flu shot?</i></p>	<p>Research is ongoing to determine how long protection or immunity will last from the first two doses of COVID-19 vaccines, especially for those who are immune compromised. At this time in Canada, a booster dose is not recommended, but this may change as we learn more about how long the vaccine works to provide protection in different populations and how vaccines work against current and new circulating variants of the COVID-19 virus.</p> <p>Given the emergence of new variants of concern, like the Delta variant, additional doses of vaccine are may be necessary. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization continues to monitor the evidence from studies in Canada and from around the world and will update their recommendations to provincial and territorial immunization programs as needed.</p>
<p><i>I am breastfeeding and have yet to receive my vaccine. Is it safe for breastfeeding mothers to get the vaccine? If there are risks, what are they? I want to get my vaccine but because I'm breastfeeding I'm a bit skeptical</i></p>	<p>Yes. NACI recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccines for people who are immunosuppressed, have an autoimmune condition, or who are pregnant or breastfeeding are now the same as the recommendations for the general population.</p> <p>Evidence is available from real-world use that COVID-19 vaccines, particularly mRNA vaccines, are safe in these populations. Individuals who are immunosuppressed from disease or treatment may have a reduced immune response to COVID-19</p>

	<p>vaccines but they still provide a worthwhile level of protection.</p> <p>It's important to know that you can protect your baby from the COVID virus by getting your vaccine while you're breastfeeding. Babies and young children are not yet able to get vaccinated, but you can pass your antibodies to them through your breast milk. Getting vaccinated and breastfeeding is a great way to protect your baby.</p> <p>Pregnant people should also get vaccinated at the earliest opportunity. If a person who is pregnant catches COVID, they are at increased risk of developing severe symptoms, and are more likely to be put on a ventilator. Their babies are more likely to need post-natal medical interventions and to have a low birth weight.</p>
<p><i>When will the moderna vaccine be available to children/teenagers?</i></p>	<p>Health Canada received an application from Moderna on June 4, 2021, to expand the indication for its COVID-19 vaccine to include youth 12 to 17 years of age. This submission is currently under review. Pfizer-BioNTech's application to expand its use for youth was previously reviewed and approved on May 5, 2021.</p> <p>Both companies are running extensive trials to determine the correct, safe dosage of the vaccine for children and teenagers. Children and teenagers aren't just "small adults", so there are a lot of considerations that come with making a vaccine appropriate for that age group. Health Canada is working carefully to review all the testing data before it will approve the vaccine for this age group.</p>