



**COMPASSION** is our  
**PASSION**

**OUR VISION:** OUTSTANDING CARE - NO EXCEPTIONS!

**OUR MISSION:** PROVIDE QUALITY PERSON-CENTRED HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY.

## Media Release

September 9, 2021  
For Immediate Release

### **COVID-19 VACCINES SAFE FOR PREGNANCIES AND BREASTFEEDING; MOMS AND SOON-TO-BE MOMS ENCOURAGED TO GET VACCINATED**

**WINDSOR, ON.** \_ In response to recent public discussions on vaccine hesitancy, Windsor Regional Hospital is encouraging individuals who are pregnant and/or have given birth recently and are breastfeeding to get vaccinated against COVID-19 for the health of both parent and baby.

The benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweighs any known or potential risks of vaccination during pregnancy, according to various research studies that are important in ensuring the continued health of those who are pregnant and the fetuses they are carrying.

“With the COVID-19 variants, there is greater morbidity amongst pregnant women versus non-pregnant, and greatest in the third trimester,” said Dr. Greg Hasen, Chief of Obstetrics for Windsor Regional Hospital. “We have seen more hospital admissions for women with COVID with the Delta variant than we saw a year ago with the Alpha variant.”

A series of studies published in August from scientists around the world are adding to the growing body of evidence that those who are pregnant or breastfeeding can pass on high levels of valuable antibodies against COVID-19 to their babies through vaccination and natural immunity, potentially protecting their infants from the disease. Last week, the World Health Organization (WHO) also published a video and podcast segment addressing these concerns which can be found here: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources/science-in-5/episode-43---pregnancy-covid-19>.

Additionally, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also updated its information last month which underlines the safety of vaccinations while pregnant or breastfeeding. It can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/pregnancy.html>

Also, the Ontario-based Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health has an updated information sheet that can be accessed here: [https://www.pcmch.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/COVID-19-Vaccine-information-Sheet-2021\\_06\\_15.pdf](https://www.pcmch.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/COVID-19-Vaccine-information-Sheet-2021_06_15.pdf). *(Il y a aussi une version française ici: [https://www.pcmch.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/French\\_COVID-19-Vaccine-Information-Sheet-2021\\_06\\_15.pdf](https://www.pcmch.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/French_COVID-19-Vaccine-Information-Sheet-2021_06_15.pdf).)*

For those seeking vaccinations for either a first dose or second dose (if 28 days from the first dose) can walk in to the Devonshire Mall Vaccination Centre, or book an appointment online between 8 am and 3:15 pm, seven days a week. Walk-ins ARE available and same day and next day appointments are most often available to be scheduled; you can book in advance online to ensure a specific time through [wevax.ca](http://wevax.ca).

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