

**Welcome. The COVID-19 Briefing Webinar
will begin shortly.**



COVID-19 Briefing Webinar

Webinar 7 in the COVID-19 Briefing Series
February 26, 2021

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THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED

Please note this meeting will be recorded.

- During this meeting, you will have the opportunity to contribute or ask questions
- Questions will be gathered and sorted to avoid duplication and ensure the best response
- Although your name will not appear on the screen to attendees, producers and presenters may have access to that information
- If you have questions about the recording of this webinar, please contact HEOCLiaison@york.ca

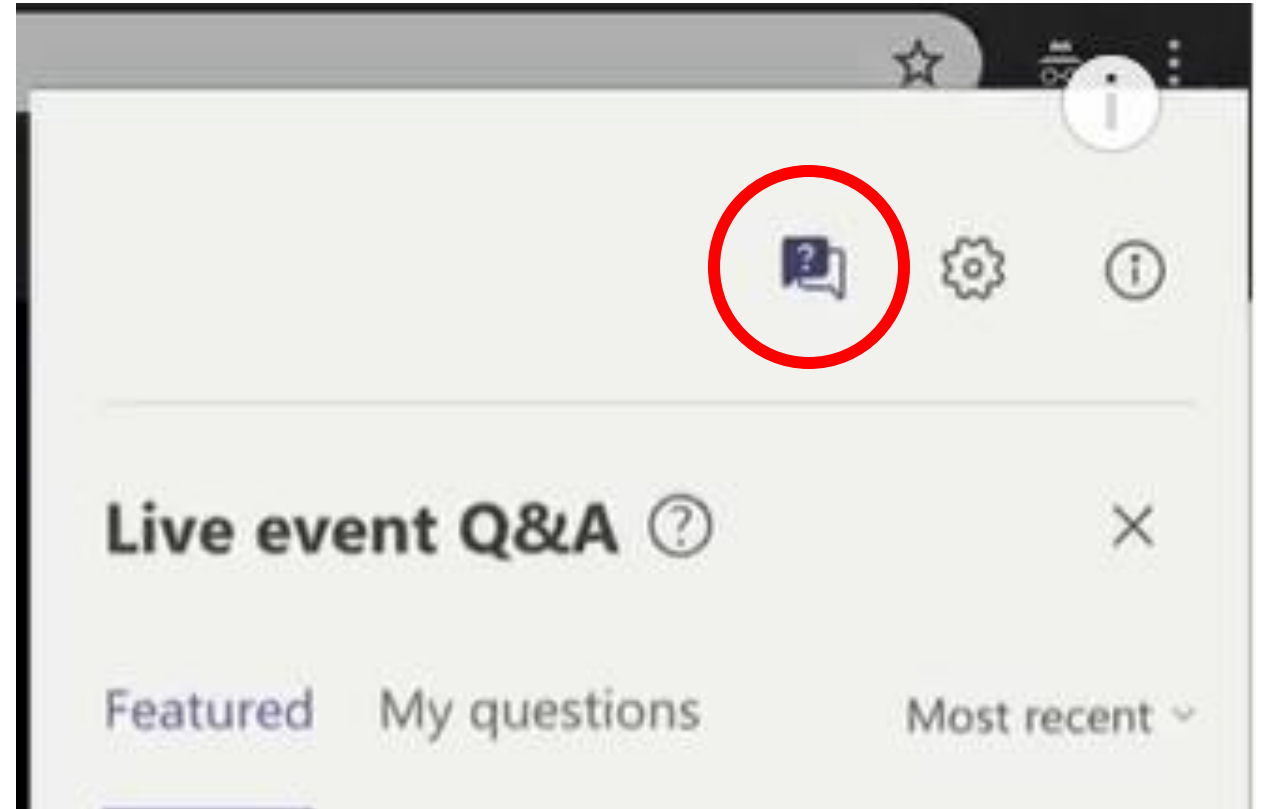
DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

To ask a question:

Select **Q&A** on the right side of the screen.

Type your question in the compose box, and then select **Send**.

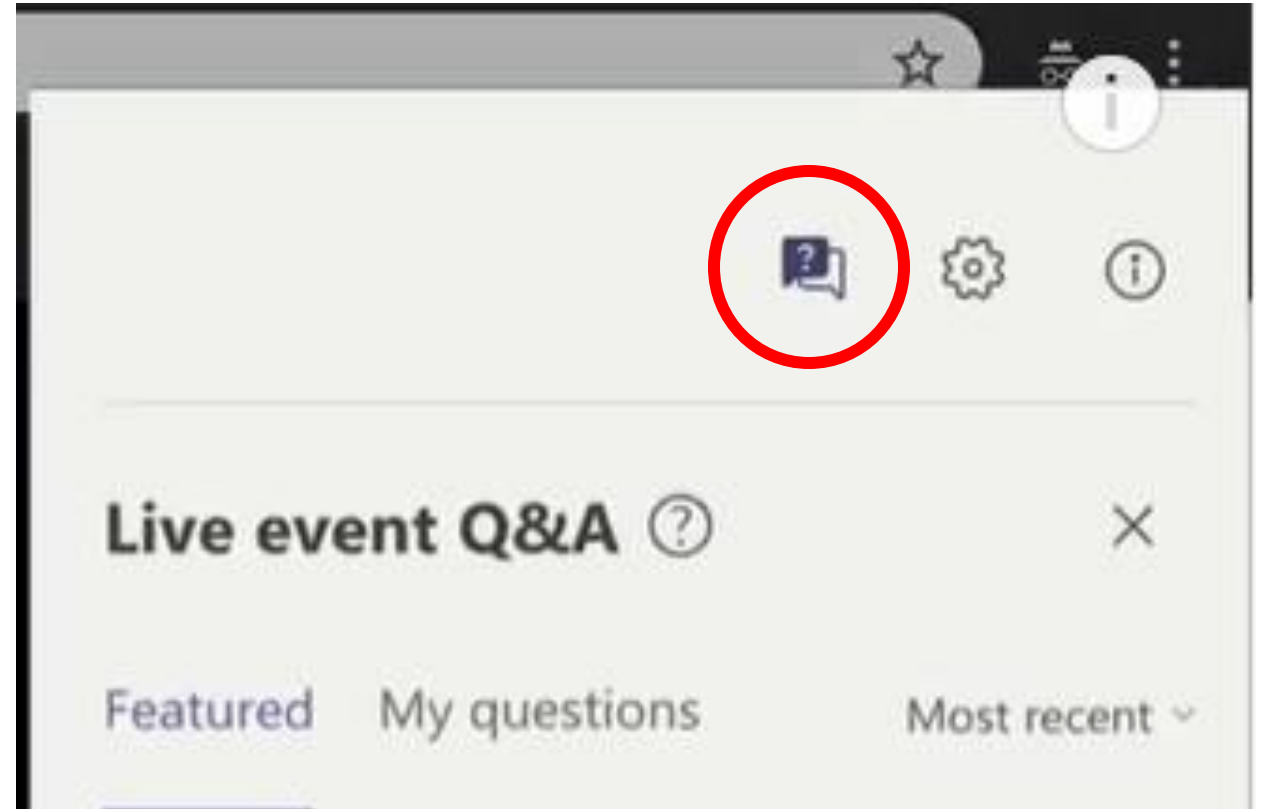
Questions will be screened by the moderator and posed to the presenters.



PLEASE FILL OUT OUR POLL

A link to an online survey has been posted in the Q&A chat box.

Please fill out the survey at some point during today's webinar.



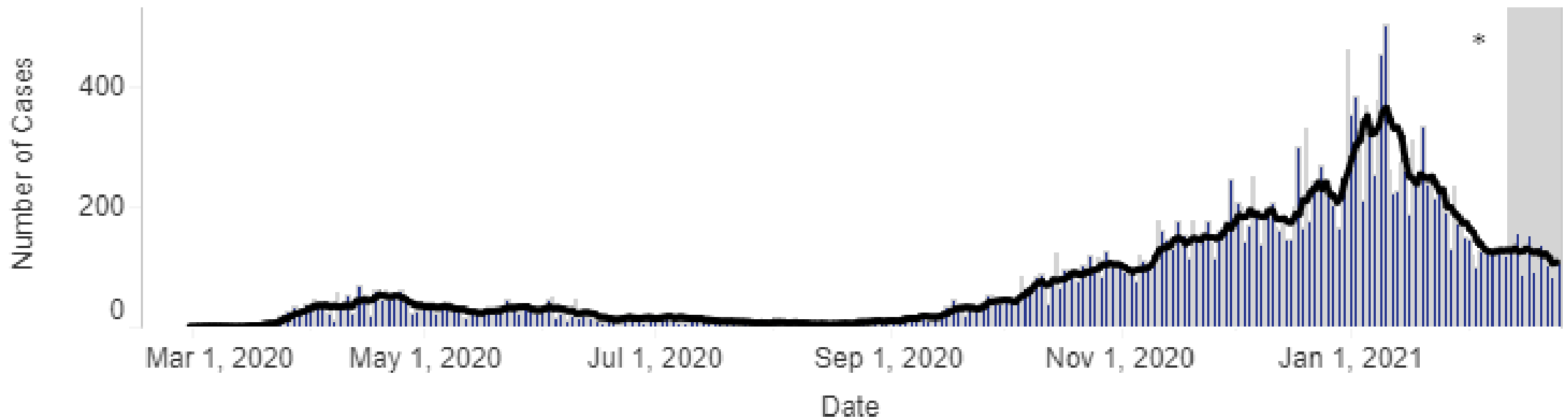
CONTENTS

1. Epi update
2. Variants of concern
3. COVID-19 vaccine updates
4. What's new

EPI UPDATES

COVID-19 IN YORK REGION

Epidemic Curve: Daily Cases in York Region

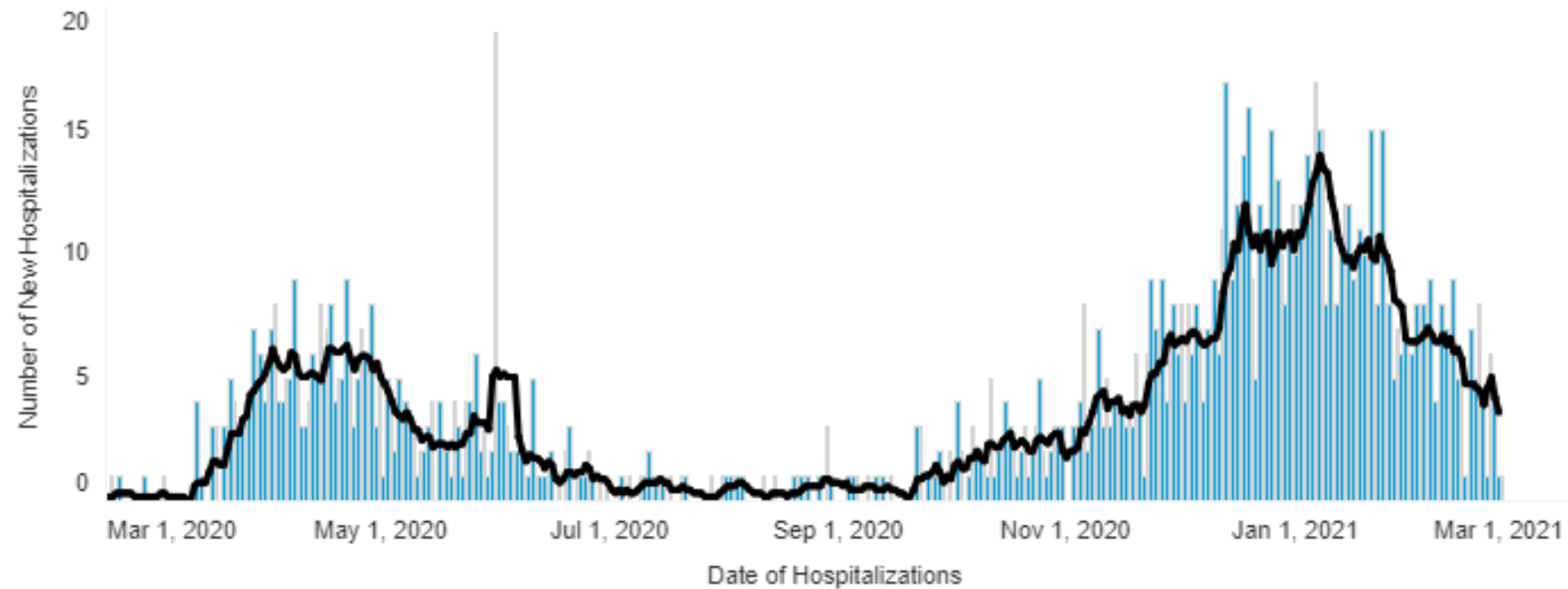


COVID-19 IN YORK REGION

COVID-19 Hospitalizations York Region

View Hospitalizations by

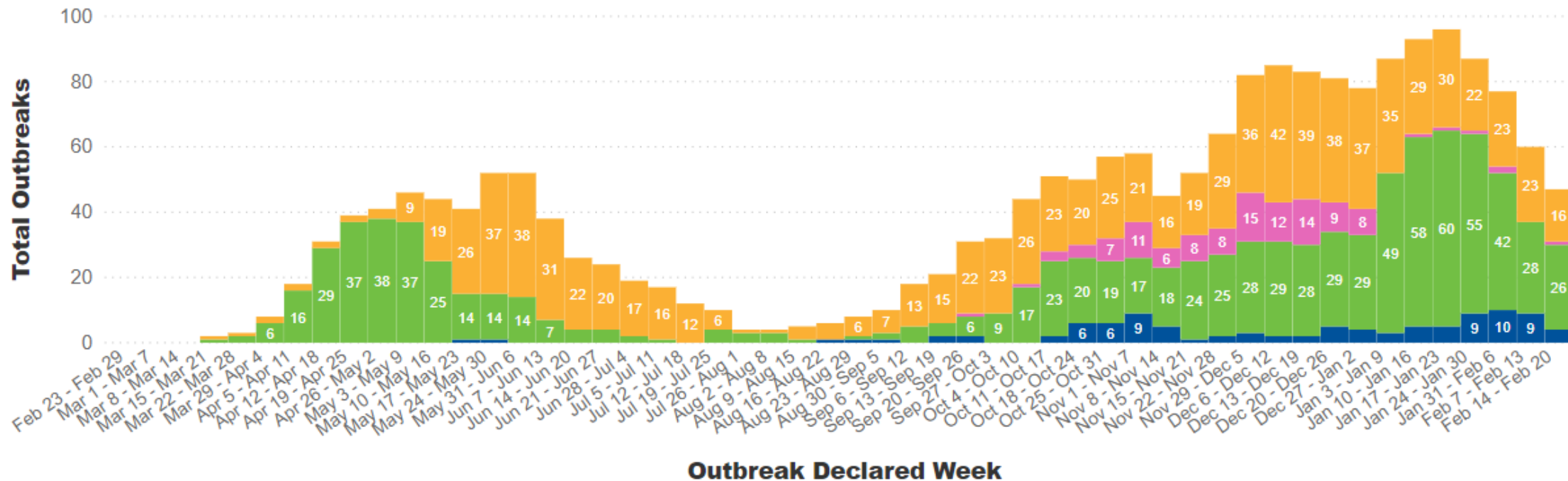
Day



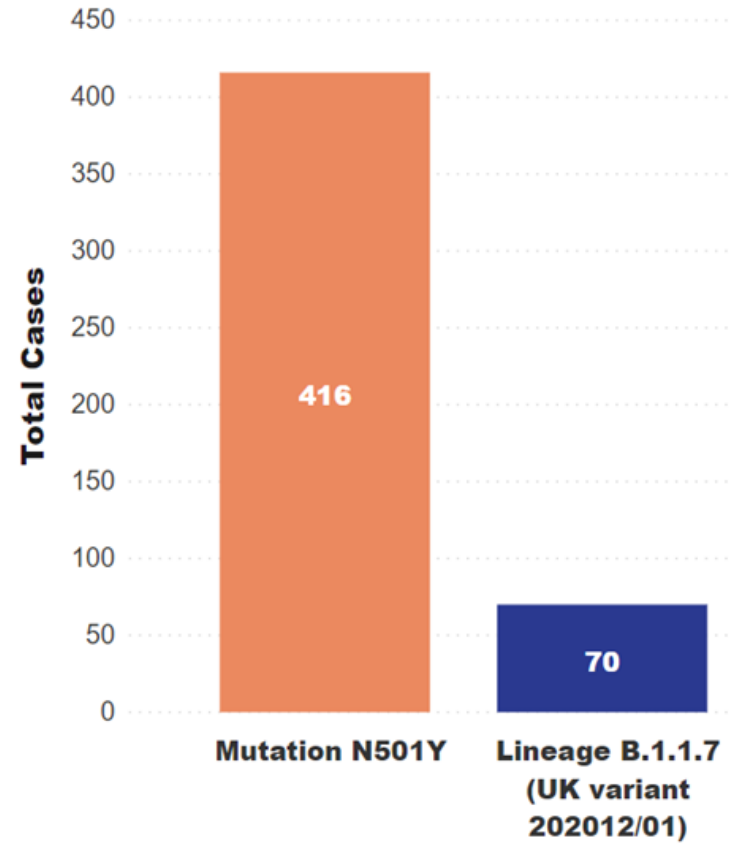
COVID-19 IN YORK REGION


COVID-19 Outbreaks in York Region
As of 5:00pm
February 24, 2021

Confirmed Open Outbreaks Today



VARIANTS OF CONCERN- YORK REGION CONTEXT



VARIANTS OF CONCERN- OVERVIEW

	B.1.1.7 (20I/501Y.V1)	B.1.351 (501Y.V2)	P.1 (B.1.1.248)
First detected	September 20, 2020 UK	October 8, 2020 South Africa	December 4, 2020 Brazil
Key mutations	N501Y D614G A570D P681H	N501Y D614G E484K K417N	N501Y D614G E484K K417T
Concerns	Increased transmissibility Possible increased severity	Increased transmissibility Possible increased risk of vaccine escape, re-infection	Increased transmissibility Possible increased risk of vaccine escape, re-infection

Ontario's Plan

- Mandatory on-arrival testing of international travellers
- Enhanced screening and sequencing
- Leveraging the latest data to inform public health decisions
- Enhanced protections for vulnerable populations
- Public health measures
- **Strengthening case and contact management**

CCM UPDATE — Enhanced Case and Contact Management

1. Enhanced identification of contacts
2. Enhanced asymptomatic testing recommendations
3. Self-Isolation of contacts of high-risk Contacts
4. Case management for VOC positive cases to be enhanced and prioritized
5. Enhanced outbreak management for all high priority risk settings

Feb 9 Interim Guidance

COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

YORK REGION COVID-19 VACCINE TASK FORCE

- The York Region COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force was established on January 19, 2021
- Membership includes representatives from all sectors in the Region, including:
 - Primary care, Ontario Health, York Region Paramedic Services, York Region Fire Services, interfaith communities, hospitals, social services and others
- The purpose of the Task Force is to provide overall direction and coordination in the preparation, launch and operations of the COVID-19 immunization campaign in York Region. The Task Force will collectively plan and implement a systems level approach for mass immunization.
- This group meets twice per week and two working groups have been established from the task force to support decisions about how vaccine is distributed for priority populations in the community and health care workers

Provincial COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan

Phase I

High-risk population groupings

431k

Congregate living
for seniors
(residents, staff,
essential caregivers,
other employees)

458k

Health care
workers

266k

Adults in First
Nations, Métis,
and Inuit
populations

300k

Adult chronic
home care
recipients

643k

Adults \geq 80

Health Care Worker Prioritization for Vaccination

- Newly released Health Care Worker Prioritization Guidance document from the Ministry of Health
- Primary Care, pharmacies, dentistry and many others are in the 'Very High' priority group



- Memos with instructions on how to book a vaccination appointment have been sent to health care workers in the 'Very High' group

AEFI REPORTING

An AEFI is an event or reaction that occurs following immunization that may or may not be caused by the vaccine. Health care providers are required to report AEFIs to York Region Public Health under the Health Promotion and Protection Act.

To report an AEFI:

- Complete an adverse event form then fax the completed form to York Region Public Health at 905-898-5213, or
- Call Health Connection at 1-877-464-9675, ext. 73452

Visit York Region's webpage [COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals](#) for more information.

AEFI REPORTING (cont.)

- [PHO Factsheet: AEFI Reporting for Health Care Providers in Ontario](#)
- [Adverse Events of Special Interest \(AESIs\) for COVID-19 Vaccines Surveillance](#)

TYPES OF ADVERSE EVENTS TO REPORT

The table below lists the types of adverse events that you should report to your [local public health unit](#). For each event there are estimated timelines between vaccination and onset of symptoms (i.e., temporal criteria). Other events not listed below can also be reported if they are clinically significant. If you are unsure, be proactive and report.

Adverse event type	TEMPORAL CRITERIA for Non-live vaccines	TEMPORAL CRITERIA for Live vaccines
Injection site reactions	Non-live vaccines	Live vaccines
Pain or redness or swelling lasting 4 days or more OR extending beyond the nearest joint	0 to 2 days	0 to 7 days
Infected abscess	0 to 7 days	0 to 7 days
Sterile abscess	0 to 7 days	0 to 7 days
Nodule	0 to 7 days	0 to 7 days
Cellulitis	0 to 7 days	0 to 7 days
Systemic reactions	Non-live vaccines	Live vaccines
Rash	0 to 7 days	0 to 42 days
Adenopathy/lymphadenopathy	0 to 7 days	0 to 42 days
Severe vomiting/diarrhea	0 to 3 days	0 to 42 days
Parotitis	N/A	0 to 30 days
Hypotonic-hyporesponsive episode (HHE), under 2 years of age only	0 to 2 days	0 to 2 days
Persistent crying/screaming; under 2 years of age only	0 to 3 days	0 to 3 days
Allergic reactions	Non-live vaccines	Live vaccines
Event managed as anaphylaxis (i.e., epinephrine administered)	0 to 24 hours	0 to 24 hours
Oculorespiratory Syndrome (ORS)	0 to 24 hours	0 to 24 hours
Allergic skin reaction (e.g., hives)	0 to 2 days	0 to 2 days
Neurologic events	Non-live vaccines	Live vaccines
Convulsions/seizure	0 to 3 days	0 to 42 days
Encephalopathy/encephalitis	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Meningitis	0 to 15 days	0 to 42 days
Anaesthesia/paresis/paralysis	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Paralysis	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Myelitis/transverse myelitis	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM)	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Gullian Barré Syndrome (GBS)	1 to 8 weeks	1 to 8 weeks
Bell's palsy	0 to 3 months	0 to 3 months
Other events of interest*	Non-live vaccines	Live vaccines
Arthritis/arthralgia	0 to 30 days	0 to 42 days
Intussusception	N/A	0 to 42 days
Thrombocytopenia	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Syncopal (fainting) with injury	0 to 30 minutes	0 to 30 minutes
Kawasaki disease	0 to 42 days	0 to 42 days
Other severe/unusual events	Reportable regardless of timeline	Reportable regardless of timeline

*Other adverse events of special interest for COVID-19 vaccine have been added to the [Ontario AEFI Reporting Form](#), please refer to the form for a complete list of types of adverse events to report.
 This document may be adapted with the permission of [Public Health Ontario](#). Public Health Ontario assumes no responsibility for the content of any publication resulting from translation/changes/adaptation of PHO documents by third parties.

Allergy Advice for COVID Vaccine

- New web-based allergy advice service for COVID-19 vaccines
- Advice from allergy and clinical immunology specialists related to the COVID-19 vaccines is now available on the Ontario eConsult Service. This enables physicians and nurse practitioners to have their questions related to allergies and the COVID-19 vaccines answered electronically within days. The Ontario eConsult Centre of Excellence, in partnership with Public Health, the OMA, OntarioMD, Ontario Health and the Ministry of Health, made this service available.

[Read more about this new service.](#)

[Complete an intake form to sign up for eConsult.](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

York Region

- york.ca/COVID19Vaccines
- [COVID-19 Vaccines – What You Need to Know](#) (video)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Infographic](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet](#)
- COVID-19 January Briefing Webinar - [Talking to Patients about Vaccine Hesitancy](#) (slides)

Ontario Ministry of Health

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet](#)

WHAT ELSE IS NEW?

AstraZeneca

- The primary analysis of the Phase III clinical trials from the UK, Brazil, and South Africa support that the AstraZeneca vaccine candidate is safe and effective at preventing COVID-19, with no severe cases and no hospitalizations reported
- Vaccine efficacy after first dose: 76%; vaccine efficacy after 2nd dose (after 12 weeks) 82%
- Canada has reserved 20 million AstraZeneca doses. As of February 22, 2021, approval from [Health Canada](#) is still pending.
- Effectiveness against the variants of concern has yet to be determined.

York Region moves to Red Zone



Red – Control

Stringent measures

- Implement broader-scale measures and restrictions, across multiple sectors, to control transmission.
- Restrictions are the most severe available before widescale business or organizational closure.

See: [COVID-19 response framework: keeping Ontario safe and open](#)

BACK TO SCHOOL

- York Region has released a new [COVID-19 School and Child-care Screening Tool](#)
- There is still a Ministry COVID-19 School and Child-care Screening Tool but we recommend ours for screening children at this time
- May transition back to a Ministry Tool at a later date



VOLUNTARY ISOLATION CENTRE

All cases and close contacts will be advised of the availability of the York Region Voluntary Isolation Centre during investigation.

Eligibility criteria:

1. Waiting for COVID-19 test results
2. COVID-19 positive or likely COVID-19 positive
3. Close contacts of a COVID-19 positive case

Cases and contacts can self-refer, please call 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72500 or TTY 1-866-512-6228 or email accessyork@york.ca

Visit york.ca/isolationcenter for more information

ACCESS TO COVID-19 LAB RESULTS

- If you are an authorized Ontario health care provider with access to ConnectingOntario ClinicalViewer or an electronic medical record system (with OLIS to EMR) or a Hospital Information System (with OLIS integration), you can access COVID-19 lab test results

View **Lab and Pathology Results** portlet in expanded or full-size view to view the OLIS full report.

View results in **All** tab.

Click **OLIS Full Report** to open report and view interpretation of results.

Collection DateTime	Last Updated	Ordered As	Test	Flag	Result	Attachments	Reference Range	Units	Test Result Status	Specimen	OLIS Full Report
24 Jun 2016 10:01	20										
24 Jun 2016 10:01	20										
24 Jun 2016 10:01	20										
24 Jun 2016 10:01	20										
24 Jun 2016 10:01	20										
16 Mar 2020 14:05	16 Mar 2020 14:29	Viral PCR	Human Coronavirus RdRp Gene...		Detected				Final	Source, Unspecif	
16 Mar 2020 14:05	16 Mar 2020 14:29	Viral PCR	Interpretation, Microbiology		COVID-19 virus...				Final	Source, Unspecif	
16 Mar 2020 14:05	16 Mar 2020 14:29	Viral PCR	2019 Novel Coronavirus RdRp ge...		Detected				Final	Source, Unspecif	
16 Mar 2020 14:05	16 Mar 2020 14:29	Viral PCR	2019 Novel Coronavirus E gene...		Detected				Final	Source, Unspecif	
16 Mar 2020 14:05	16 Mar 2020 14:29	Viral PCR	Interpretation		Novel coronavirus				Final	Source, Unspecif	

For more information, please visit ehealthontario.ca

Other New/Updated Ministry Documents

- [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance](#) (Feb. 17, 2021)
- [Case Definition – COVID-19](#) (Feb. 18, 2021)
- [COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#) (Feb. 18, 2021)
- [COVID-19 Guidance: Considerations for Rapid Antigen Screening](#) (Feb. 17, 2021)
- [Rapid Point of Care Testing Use Case Guidance](#) (Feb. 17, 2021)

Other Ministry Documents: Testing

- POC Testing:
 - Rapid molecular: screening & diagnosis
 - Rapid antigen: screening only
 - Lab-based PCR test required if symptomatic, close contact of known case, part of outbreak
 - Screening does not replace PH measures
 - Positive rapid antigen test = preliminary positive
 - Must be confirmed by lab-based PCR testing
 - Must be reported to public health
 - Managed as probable case, including contact tracing
- Other testing updates
 - Targeted testing group
 - Patient transfer between facilities

Q&A PERIOD

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

YORK.CA/HEALTHPROFESSIONALS

- CANCER
- COVID-19
- DENTAL
- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
- FOOD SAFETY
- HEALTH AT WORK
- HEALTH INFORMATION LINE
- HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
- Announcements and Resources
- Cannabis
- Child Growth and Development
- COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals
- Early Years Support Services Registry
- Ebola Virus Disease for Health Professionals
- E-Newsletter for Health Care Professionals
- Health Statistics and Reports
- Infectious Diseases and Outbreak Management
- Information for Dental and Healthcare Providers
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Opioids
- Quitting Smoking
- Tuberculosis
- Vaccination Information for Healthcare Professionals



Announcements and Resources

York Region provides important public health updates and offers events and resources, like the Public Health Matters newsletter, to support health care providers



COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals

York Region Public Health continues to provide support for health professionals related to COVID-19 (formerly referred to as novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV)



Cannabis

Cannabis, also known as marijuana, weed or pot, can be consumed for medical and non-medical purposes. Find out more about legalization and the health effects of cannabis use in adults and youth.



Child Growth and Development

Find tools and resources for parents to help children grow and develop. When parents know what to expect at each stage of development, it can be easier to meet their child's needs and understand their behaviour.



E-Newsletter for Health Care Professionals

Sign up to receive the quarterly Public Health Matters E-Newsletter for health care professionals.



Early Years Support Services Registry

This is a resource for health, early learning and child care professionals in York Region who wish to refer a young child or their family for support services. It provides information about programs and services available including details regarding eligibility and

NEWSROOM

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- Flickr
- Instagram
- Pinterest
- e-News
- Mobile App

Campaigns & Projects



Radon: Test Your Home

You can't see, taste or smell radon but it is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Learn more about radon and the York Region study.

[More Campaigns & Projects >>](#)

Contact Us

Health Connection

EMAIL

LINKS TO BOOKMARK

York Region

- [york.ca/healthprofessionals](https://www.york.ca/healthprofessionals) - health care provider specific page
- [york.ca/COVID19](https://www.york.ca/COVID19) - general COVID-19 page

Public Health Ontario

- [Report of Adverse Event Following Vaccination](#) - form

Ministry of Health

- [COVID-19 Guidance for the Health Care Sector](#) - all provincial COVID-19 guidance

THANK YOU

Remember to sign up to [Public Health Matters](#) for:

- Today's slides
- Follow up Q&As and
- Future webinar information

