

## Vaccination of Physiotherapists Against COVID-19

April 6, 2021

Physiotherapy Alberta supports vaccination as *“one of the world's greatest public health achievements.”*<sup>1</sup>

Vaccination protects the health and wellbeing of physiotherapists and other health-care workers who are vital to the health system. Within the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic, public health experts indicate that widespread vaccination is critical to bringing an end to the pandemic. Public health experts also indicate that vaccination is very likely to decrease the risk of a physiotherapist transmitting COVID-19 to their families and the patients they serve.

**Physiotherapy Alberta strongly encourages all physiotherapists to be vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccination when they are eligible.**

We are heartened by the knowledge that some Alberta physiotherapists have already received one or both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and that all other regulated members of Physiotherapy Alberta and physiotherapy support staff working in direct patient care will be eligible for vaccination in Phase 2C.

Some physiotherapists may also be eligible to access vaccinations under categories 2A or 2B of Alberta's Vaccine Program, based on their age or their experience of a chronic health condition.

In the context of increasing numbers of virus variant cases, we recognize that many people are anxious to be immunized and that the importance of vaccination cannot be overstated.

Physiotherapists and other health professionals need to continue to be patient as they await the opportunity to be vaccinated. However, in recent days, Alberta Health has announced expanded vaccine eligibility as vaccine supplies have increased and information shared by Minister Shandro and Premier Kenney on April 6, 2021 suggests that the pace of Alberta's immunization program will increase in the coming weeks.

Physiotherapy Alberta does not have any insider knowledge regarding the precise dates of when the Government of Alberta's Phase 2C vaccination will begin. We continue to monitor the province's COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan and encourages physiotherapists to do the same by regularly checking the Government of Alberta [COVID-19 vaccination distribution](#) web page.

1. Government of Canada. *Regulating Vaccines for Human Use in Canada*. Available at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/biologics-radiopharmaceuticals-genetic-therapies/activities/fact-sheets/regulation-vaccines-human-canada.html> Accessed February 1, 2021.