

COVID-19 Information

Vaccinations During Pregnancy

Pregnancy and vaccination choice during the COVID-19 pandemic can be overwhelming and stressful. If you have any questions or concerns about getting vaccinated while pregnant, we suggest you read through the resources listed on this page and discuss COVID-19 vaccinations with your midwife and/or midwifery team. The AAM and Albertan midwives seek to help you make informed choices by providing you with respectful, open, and evidence-based discussions about COVID-19 vaccinations.

According to the <u>Government of Canada</u>, scientific evidence shows that COVID-19 can impact pregnancies to differing degrees depending on factors such as risk of exposure to COVID-19 and pre-existing conditions. Although research on COVID-19 vaccinations in still on-going, there has been no evidence thus far that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility issues.

In the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada's (SOGC's) <u>Statement on COVID-19</u> <u>Vaccination in Pregnancy</u> it was stated that:

- Pregnant individuals should be offered vaccination at any time during pregnancy or while breastfeeding if no contraindications exist
- The SOGC supports the use of all available COVID-19 vaccines approved in Canada in any trimester of pregnancy and during breast/chestfeeding in accordance with regional eligibility
- The decision to be vaccinated is based on the individual's personal values, as well as an
 understanding that the risk of infection and/or morbidity from COVID-19 outweighs the theorized
 and undescribed risk of being vaccinated during pregnancy or while breast/chestfeeding.
 Individuals should not be precluded from vaccination based on pregnancy status or
 breast/chestfeeding
- Given that pregnant people are at increased risk of morbidity from COVID-19 infection, all pregnant persons should be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

Under Alberta's current COVID-19 Vaccination eligibility, all Albertans born in 2009 or earlier are eligible to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. To book your vaccine or to find out more about eligibility, vaccine safety, and vaccine ingredients click here.



Resources:

SOGC Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnancy, by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, reaffirmed on May 4, 2021

Alberta COVID-19 Vaccine Program by the Government of Alberta

COVID-19 Immunization in Pregnancy: What You Need to Know by Alberta Health Services, May 12, 2021

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): Prevention and Risks by the Government of Canada

Vaccines for COVID-19 by the Government of Canada

<u>Pregnancy, Childbirth and Caring for a Newborn During the COVID-19 Pandemic</u> by the Government of Canada

Immunization Resources for Clients by the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM)

<u>Vaccines: We Can Talk About It</u> by the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM)

<u>Considerations of the COVID-19 Vaccination in Lactation</u> by the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, December 14, 2020

<u>Vaccination in Pregnancy & Breastfeeding Decision–Making Tool</u> by Ontario Ministry of Health, April 16, 2021

FAQ: Breastfeeding and COVID-19 by the World Health Organization, May 12, 2020