



COVID-19 FAQs

October 14th, 2021

Can a patient ask about my COVID-19 vaccination status?

Patients have a right to ask their healthcare providers about their vaccination status and are free to choose their oral healthcare provider based on whatever criteria they decide.

If a patient asks you about your vaccination status for COVID-19 you are not obligated to reveal this information as this is personal health information.

If you are asked about your vaccination status, you can choose whether to disclose your vaccination status.

Can I refuse patients who are not vaccinated for COVID-19 or refuse to disclose their vaccination status?

No, being unvaccinated or refusing to disclose status is not a legitimate reason to refuse or discontinue providing care for a patient.

Why is CDHM strongly recommending COVID-19 vaccinations for dental hygienists?

Manitoba Public Health, based on current evidence, has included vaccination as one of their pandemic response risk mitigation strategies against COVID-19. As healthcare providers, dental hygienists provide care in the public trust and must exhibit the highest standards of practice and ethics. As a health regulator, the CDHM is accountable to the Ministry of Health through legislation under the Dental Hygienists Act. It is, therefore, important to support policies set forth by Manitoba Health.

Do I have to get vaccinated for COVID-19 to go to work?

The recent [Public Health Order](#) has put into place mandatory vaccination for designated persons. While most dental hygienists are not employees of Public Health, they should be aware of any immunization requirements *set by their own place of employment*.



Am I eligible for a third dose of COVID-19 Vaccine?

According to Public Health, “health care personnel who have direct contact with patients, residents and clients are recommended to receive a third dose of an mRNA vaccine at least 6 months after their second dose of any COVID-19 vaccine.”

Eligibility includes all physicians, pharmacists and nurses who provide direct patient care in any setting. It also includes all health care personnel who have direct contact with patients, residents or clients in:

- Hospitals
- Northern nursing stations operated by the Government of Manitoba
- PCHs or supportive housing facilities
- Facilities operated by Shared Health, an RHA, AFM, or a community services agency that is the subject of a funding agreement with Shared Health or an RHA
- Residential mental health facility or addictions treatment facility that is operated by or the subject of a funding agreement with the Government of Manitoba

Health care workers should only get the booster shot at least six months after their second dose. Where possible, the third dose should be with the same mRNA vaccine as the previous dose. Work or professional identification should be presented to confirm their role.