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## **IPAC Canada encourages Canadians to take COVID-19 vaccine**

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**OTTAWA, O.N.** – As the first doses of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccines arrive and administration of the vaccine continues across Canada, Infection Prevention and Control Canada (IPAC Canada) is encouraging all Canadians to get vaccinated against COVID-19 when the vaccine is made available to them.

The rollout of COVID-19 vaccines in Canada will occur in phases to ensure that the most vulnerable Canadians and those working in essential services who are at greater risk of exposure are prioritized to receive the vaccine. As it becomes available to Canadians in the coming months, it is critical that all Canadians receive the vaccine.

“Canadians beginning to receive COVID-19 vaccines just nine months into the pandemic is a testament to the tireless work of the world’s scientists and researchers but in order for the vaccine to help us stop the spread of COVID-19 and get back to normal, a sizeable majority of Canadians need to be vaccinated,” said Barbara Catt, President of IPAC Canada. “This is why we are encouraging all Canadians to receive the vaccine as it becomes available to them.”

Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccines are the first two vaccines to be approved in Canada, following their approvals on December 9 and December 23 respectively, there are [two other vaccines currently under review by Health Canada](#). The Government of Canada is also making [information readily available about the safety of vaccines, possible side effects and how these vaccines work](#) and IPAC Canada is encouraging Canadians to get the information they need about COVID-19 vaccines from government and public health sources.

“In addition to encouraging Canadians to seek out the necessary information and to receive the vaccine, it is also crucial that Canadians remain vigilant about other public health measures in the months to come,” continued Catt. “While the news of the vaccine is encouraging, we need to continue to do our part to keep ourselves, those around us and our communities safe. This includes adhering to the relevant public health restrictions and measures such as maintaining physical distancing, wearing masks, washing our hands frequently, and more.”

More information about COVID-19 vaccinations can be found on the [Government of Canada website](#) and on the websites of provincial governments and public health authorities.

*IPAC Canada is the national, professional organization for those professionally and occupationally interested in the prevention and control of infections in all healthcare settings.*

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