



TILBURY DISTRICT FAMILY HEALTH TEAM COVID-19 VACCINE EXEMPTION INFORMATION

Information Regarding Medical Exemptions from COVID-19 Vaccination

The Tilbury District Family Health Team strongly advise that all our patients who are eligible, be vaccinated against COVID-19. As we enter a 4th wave, it is predominately affecting those who are unvaccinated.

Ontario's Chief Medical Officer reports that unvaccinated people are:

- 8 times more likely to catch COVID-19
- 29 times more likely to end up in hospital
- 48 times more likely to require ICU care

Medical evidence is clear that the benefits of vaccination out weight the risks. Given this, we strongly support the vaccination effort to bring an end to this global pandemic.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons has advised us that medical exemptions for the COVID-19 vaccination can only be given in the following circumstances: "Generally speaking, there are very few acceptable medical exemptions to the COVID-19 vaccination (e.g. an allergist/immunologist - confirmed allergy or anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose or to any of its components that cannot be mitigated; a diagnosed episode of myocarditis/pericarditis after receipt of an mRNA vaccine)".

Letters for such exemptions may only be written by (or in consultation with) your allergist or cardiologist, or due to other rare reactions after a first dose is received, which would be directed by Public Health. Therefore, we will not be providing medical exemptions to our patients who do not meet the criteria. If you believe you meet the criteria, you can make an appointment to discuss with your Physician or Nurse Practitioner.

We realize that it is a challenging time for everyone.

Please remember that we have a zero-tolerance policy for abusive language or behaviour toward our physicians and staff. We ask that respectful language and behaviour be used in discussions.

We look forward to working with you to end this pandemic.