

CANADIAN DERMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION PATIENT FACT SHEET

COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR PATIENTS ON SYSTEMIC THERAPIES

(ORAL MEDICATION, INJECTIONS, BIOLOGICS AND/OR

MEDICATIONS THAT MODIFY THE IMMUNE SYSTEM)

All patients, including those on treatment for a skin condition, SHOULD RECEIVE A COVID-19 VACCINE, unless they have severe allergic reactions to one or more vaccine ingredients.

- There are no safety concerns associated with the vaccination of patients on systemic (oral or injectable) treatments.
- Since the COVID-19 vaccine is not a live vaccine, it is safe for patients on medications that modify the immune system.
- The benefits of the vaccine far outweigh the risks of the vaccine.

Vaccines are considered one of the best ways of preventing and controlling infectious diseases and have saved countless lives. COVID-19 can cause serious illness, long-term complications, or death.

The risk of dying if a person contracts COVID-19 is currently estimated to be 2.1% in Canada, which means more than 2 out of every 100 people infected with COVID will die.

There have been no deaths reported with any of the COVID vaccines, and millions of people have been vaccinated. The risk of a severe reaction from vaccination is far lower than the health risks from getting sick with COVID-19.

If you have questions about your own medication for your skin condition, we encourage you to speak to your certified dermatologist.

The CDA will continue to monitor the situation closely, in order to best safeguard the dermatology needs of Canadians.