

Implementation-at-a-glance sheet

Various barriers may be affecting vaccine uptake in your long-term care home (LTCH) or retirement home (RH). It is important to use the right strategies to address different barriers.

This resource provides strategies and resources that may be useful in addressing the specific barriers that your LTCH/RH may experience related to vaccination.

Barrier	Strategy
Mistrust around vaccine safety	- Distribute educational resources, like Health Canada's poster on how vaccines are made, to staff directly or in common areas - Encourage staff to attend vaccine town halls - Support staff in becoming Vaccine Champions by providing them with time to complete the Vaccine Champions course (approx. 3 hours in length) - You can promote trust by giving factual information on vaccine safety and setting a positive example for your staff. Resources with factual information will be sent out in future newsletters, and will also be available through the VACCINE+ site
Belief that the vaccine will not improve health	- Distribute educational resources to staff directly or in common areas. Resources you can use will be provided in future newsletters, and available on the VACCINE+ site - You can provide accurate information on the benefits of vaccination to others in your home, through 1-to-1 conversations or group education sessions - Position vaccination as an important component of an overall infection prevention and control (IPAC) and outbreak preparedness strategy. You can read more about outbreak preparedness on the Wellness Hub website - Encourage staff to attend vaccine town halls - Support staff in becoming Vaccine Champions by providing them with time to complete the Vaccine Champions course (approx. 3 hours in length)
Lack of knowledge, access, or ability to get to a vaccine clinic	Distribute resources for booking vaccines, such as the Government of Ontario's page on booking COVID-19 vaccines and booking Influenza vaccines, to staff directly or in common areas, and emphasize that both vaccines are free in Ontario
Families' concerns around vaccine safety impact uptake for residents who do not have capacity to provide consent	- Distribute infographics and educational resources to families. The Public Health Agency of Canada's resources may be useful, such as: A fact sheet on the COVID-19 vaccine Information page for the Influenza vaccine - Be understanding and respectful of families' concerns, to create a safe and open environment for discussions about the vaccines - You can encourage families to speak to their healthcare provider(s), or other experts about vaccines
Vaccine fatigue	- Focus on informing others on why vaccines are an important part of overall outbreak preparedness - Encourage vaccine positivity in your home by providing incentives. For example, you can host "Vaccine Days" where you give out prizes or snacks and refreshments, to raise awareness about your home's vaccine campaigns - This fatigue may be due to feelings of burden and burnout. You can support staff wellness by promoting LTCH/RH Wellness Days, and using resources like the CARE+ package and Peer-to-Peer Support toolkit

For common questions and sample answers related to vaccine concerns, please see [here](#)