

March 11, 2021

Dear SHAWL participants,

I am writing to provide an update on post-vaccination capillary testing to follow vaccine antibody levels. My apologies for the delay in providing additional information – there was an enthusiastic response to participation in the sub-study and I have been wading through emails all week. Thank you!

### **Why are we doing this?**

As the vaccines were being rolled out, some vaccinated participants have asked if they could submit additional capillary collections post vaccination to follow their antibody levels. This has become particularly interesting with the 4-month delay in the second dose of vaccine. The team will be able to obtain some preliminary information regarding antibody levels with the different schedules.

These additional blood samples are NOT required by the main study protocol and if you decide to participate in this optional part of the study, you can opt out at any time.

### **How do I participate?**

If you wish to provide additional capillary samples, **please print, review and sign the consent addendum (can be found at <https://www.lunenfeld.ca/shawl/?page=941> or contact the study staff) and return the signed consent addendum via e-mail.**

If you have not been vaccinated yet – please provide us with your date as soon as you have it.

### **CAPILLARY COLLECTION SCHEDULES:**

For now - you will continue to receive the regular reminders for your scheduled study bloods and saliva. We are attempting to provide reminders for the post-vaccination blood also.

**Note – See the SAMPLE schedules based on initial vaccine dose and projected 2nd dose (16 weeks later).** This is posted at <https://www.lunenfeld.ca/shawl/?page=941> (information & resources tab).

#### **1. Vaccinations – 21 days apart or 28 days apart**

You would provide additional capillary samples every 2 weeks for 8 weeks after your first vaccination or if your second dose is delayed, until 4 weeks after your final vaccination. If this schedule overlaps with your regular capillary collection day, please only submit one tube of blood.

**Please number your capillary bloods in sequence and log each of these specimens as soon as you drop them off. See below for where to obtain additional supplies.**

**2. Vaccinations – 4 months between dose 1 and dose 2**

- Collection at 2 and 4 FULL WEEKS AFTER FIRST VACCINE dose
- Capillary collection during collection week JUST PRIOR TO, but closest to, your second dose
- Collection at 2 and 4 FULL WEEKS AFTER SECOND VACCINE dose

**OPTIONAL:**

- You are welcome to collect **every two weeks** from your vaccine dose through to 4-6 weeks after your second dose
- You are welcome to **collect every month between the required collections** above

If this schedule overlaps with your regular capillary collection day, please only submit one tube of blood.

**Please number your capillary bloods in sequence and log each of these specimens as soon as you drop them off.**

**Additional Collection Kits and Labels:**

If you need additional blood specimen collection kits, you can pick them up in room 885A (600 University Ave.) or 5th floor, elevator lobby at 60 Murray St. OICR supplies are available at 661 University Ave – 5th floor West Tower, OICR Reception and at the loading dock. We have added a bin with blank labels to use for your additional capillary collections.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [shawl@lunenfeld.ca](mailto:shawl@lunenfeld.ca).