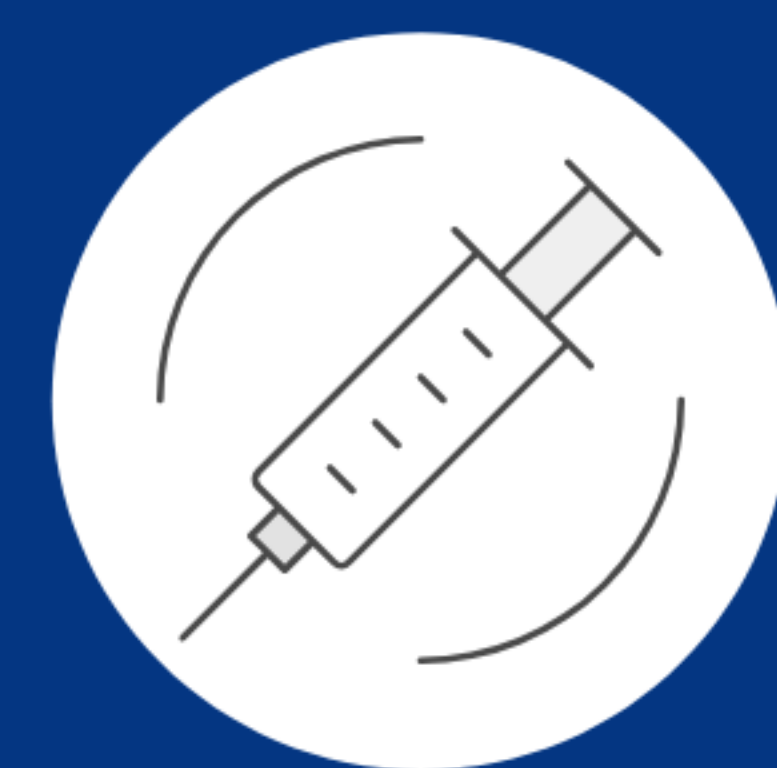


# HUMAN CELL LINES

## & the COVID-19 Vaccines



We understand this topic is very sensitive and important for some, raising ethical and moral questions. We want everyone to feel like they are making a fully informed decision about getting a COVID-19 vaccine. We encourage anyone with concerns about the use of human cell lines in vaccine development to weigh the risks and benefits of the COVID-19 vaccines with their health care provider.

### THE FACTS

- **None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain any cells from aborted fetuses.**
- **No abortions are done to make any vaccine, including the COVID-19 vaccines.**
- **Human cell lines, which are different than actual human cells, are grown in a lab.**
- **Neither of the approved mRNA vaccines in Canada (Moderna and Pfizer) use human cells or human cell lines.**

### WHAT ARE HUMAN CELL LINES?

Human cell lines (also called fetal cell lines) are cells that grow in a laboratory. Some cells from two fetuses, obtained from abortions by maternal choice in the 1960s have given rise to the cell lines. The cells have multiplied, creating generations of human cell lines. Current human cell lines are thousands of generations removed from the original fetal tissue and therefore do not contain any tissue from a fetus.

These two human cell lines have been used to develop a small number of vaccines, but not the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines approved in Canada. When human cell lines are used to develop vaccines, they are removed later in the process and therefore no vaccines contain human cell lines.

For more information:  
[immunizebc.ca/ask-us/questions/covid-19/do-any-vaccines-use-aborted-fetuses-ingredient](https://immunizebc.ca/ask-us/questions/covid-19/do-any-vaccines-use-aborted-fetuses-ingredient)

### WHAT RELIGIOUS GROUPS SAY ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINES:

There have been a number of religious leaders promoting the COVID-19 vaccines -- Judaism, Protestant Christianity, Islam, Evangelical Christianity, Hinduism, Orthodox Christianity and Mormonism -- to name a few. As we continue to live with COVID-19 and the health threat that it poses, vaccines are our best option to get back to the things we miss, like in-person worship.

To read what the Vatican says about vaccination, see: [catholicnews.com/vatican-without-alternatives-current-covid-19-vaccines-are-morally-acceptable/](https://catholicnews.com/vatican-without-alternatives-current-covid-19-vaccines-are-morally-acceptable/)

To read what other religious leaders are saying, see Table 1 at: [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8205255/](https://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8205255/)

**Questions about the vaccines? Speak to a health care professional.**

CK Public Health: 519.355.1071 x 1900

SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service: 437.881.3505

Ontario Vaccine Confidence Line: 1.833.943.3900

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References: [manitobavaccine.ca/answers/were-fetal-cells-used-in-the-covid-19-vaccines-development/](https://manitobavaccine.ca/answers/were-fetal-cells-used-in-the-covid-19-vaccines-development/)  
[nebraskamed.com/COVID/you-asked-we-answered-do-the-covid-19-vaccines-contain-aborted-fetal-cells](https://nebraskamed.com/COVID/you-asked-we-answered-do-the-covid-19-vaccines-contain-aborted-fetal-cells)  
[immunizebc.ca/ask-us/questions/covid-19/do-any-vaccines-use-aborted-fetuses-ingredient](https://immunizebc.ca/ask-us/questions/covid-19/do-any-vaccines-use-aborted-fetuses-ingredient)