

**The impact of Canada’s fragmented healthcare model on pertussis vaccination in pregnancy: a qualitative study of perinatal healthcare providers**

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Abstract:	<p><b>BACKGROUND:</b> Vaccination against pertussis during pregnancy has the potential to substantially reduce disease in infants. In 2018, the Canadian National Advisory Committee on Immunization recommended a single dose of tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and reduced acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine for every pregnancy. Because healthcare provider (HCP) recommendation is a well-established determinant of vaccine acceptance and uptake, we examined the influences on Canadian perinatal HCPs’ abilities to recommend and provide antenatal Tdap vaccine, with a goal of informing an equitable, comprehensive pregnancy vaccination program.</p> <p><b>METHODS:</b> We conducted semi-structured, individual phone interviews with 44 perinatal HCPs (12 midwives, 9 nurses, 13 family physicians, 10 obstetricians) from 5 provinces, representing diverse educational experiences, practice settings, and models of care. We interpreted these data using qualitative thematic analysis, informed by interpretive description.</p>

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	<p>RESULTS: The ability of HCPs to recommend and provide antenatal Tdap vaccine was strongly influenced by structural constraints in the fractured Canadian perinatal healthcare system. Clinical training of HCPs varied resulting in different knowledge and practices. HCPs felt hindered by a lack of lay information resources. Consistent and convenient vaccine access was perceived to be key to promoting confidence and encouraging uptake, yet Tdap vaccine was not easily accessible for all women.</p> <p>INTERPRETATION: Our findings suggest that Canada’s fragmented healthcare model has a detrimental effect on HCPs’ ability to recommend and ensure access to antenatal Tdap vaccine. Lessons from this study of pertussis vaccine are pertinent to the implementation of successful pertussis vaccine programs and future pregnancy vaccination initiatives.</p>



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4 qualitative study of perinatal healthcare providers  
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38 Authors declare no competing interests.  
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## INTRODUCTION

Endemic pertussis contributes considerably to childhood morbidity and mortality in Canada, particularly among infants under 4 months of age (1,2). A single dose of tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and reduced acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine during pregnancy boosts maternal pertussis antibodies and provides passive protection for newborn infants until they are old enough to receive pertussis vaccine (3). In early 2018 the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) and the Canadian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (SOGC) recommended Tdap in every pregnancy between 21 and 32 weeks gestation (2,4). As of November 2019, the vaccine is publicly funded for every pregnancy in all Canadian provinces and territories except for British Columbia and Ontario (5). Tdap is the second pregnancy vaccine to be routinely recommended in Canada since the recommendation of influenza vaccine in 2007. New pregnancy vaccines are under development and may become routinely recommended in the future (6).

Healthcare provider (HCP) recommendation is a well-established determinant of pregnancy vaccine acceptance and uptake (7–11). Canadian family physicians, midwives, nurses, and obstetricians all provide and frequently share care of pregnant women. Given the diversity of educational experiences, practice settings, and models of care among the perinatal HCP workforce, the ability to recommend and provide pregnancy vaccines may vary (12–14). Barriers to recommending and providing antenatal Tdap in clinical settings must be identified and addressed (7,8). Studies from other high-income countries with universal antenatal Tdap programs have focused primarily on the determinants of vaccine uptake from the perspectives of pregnant women (15–19). We conducted a qualitative study among a diverse sample of Canadian perinatal providers to understand the influences on HCPs' abilities to recommend and

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2  
3 provide antenatal Tdap vaccine. This information can help create an equitable, comprehensive  
4 pregnancy vaccination program and close the gap between a national-level vaccine recommendation  
5 and clinical practice.  
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## 10 11 12 13 METHODS

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16 Purposive sampling was used to select family physicians, midwives, nurses, and obstetricians currently  
17 providing perinatal care in British Columbia (BC), Manitoba (MB), Nova Scotia (NS), Ontario (ON), or  
18 Quebec (QC). Sampling ensured a diversity of practice settings, including HCPs working with patients  
19 (commonly referred to in midwifery care as clients) who may have difficulties accessing perinatal care  
20 due to living in rural and remote communities, low socioeconomic status, substance use, and language  
21 barriers. HCPs were identified and recruited by telephone, email, mail, or direct contact and through  
22 professional networks. Recruitment ended when one or more HCP from each discipline in each province  
23 were interviewed and no new major themes were identified through the interviews.  
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39 The study team developed the interview guide (Appendix 1) and pilot-tested it with HCPs who were not  
40 study participants. Each interview explored the HCP's training and clinical practice setting, how they  
41 learned about and implemented vaccine-related guidelines, experience recommending and providing  
42 vaccines in pregnancy, and approaches taken with patients who had hesitations about vaccines. In  
43 keeping with the qualitative principle of emergent design (20), our approach was iterative in nature,  
44 with coding beginning before all data were collected. This permitted adjustment of questions and  
45 verification of findings emerging from early data collection in subsequent interviews.  
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### *Ethics Approval*

This study received approval from the Research Ethics Boards of all co-authors. All participants provided informed consent.

### *Data Collection*

Semi-structured telephone or in-person interviews were conducted from June 2018 to July 2019 in English or French (depending on participant's preference). Each interview lasted approximately 30 minutes and was conducted by a female graduate or post-graduate qualitative health researcher. Interviews were audio recorded and transcribed in their original languages. Participants were invited to review final, de-identified transcripts for accuracy.

### *Data Analysis*

Data analysis was a two-stage deductive, then inductive, process. First, a standardized deductive codebook, developed by the research team for use in multiple vaccine confidence studies, was applied. Transcripts were deductively coded in their original languages using NVivo Software (QSR International). Factors affecting HCPs ability to recommend and provide Tdap vaccine were organized into patient, provider, and health-system level categories, similar to the categories applied in previous studies examining barriers and facilitators to pregnancy vaccine uptake (9,11). This content was then subjected to an iterative process of inductive coding and theme development by the entire research team, informed by interpretive description—a qualitative analytic approach that uses inductive analysis to provide novel, clinically applicable insights (21).

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9 RESULTS

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12 We sent 212 study invites and received replies from 58 HCPs (52 consented, 6 declined). Among the 52  
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14 HCPs who consented, 2 were not eligible because they did not provide prenatal care and 6 were not  
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16 available for an interview. We interviewed 44 eligible HCPs practicing in a variety of settings (Table 1).  
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23 Participants described a trusting relationship between an individual provider and their pregnant patient  
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25 to be the foundation for vaccine discussions. However, HCPs' abilities to consistently recommend and  
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27 provide Tdap were shaped by healthcare system factors that were often beyond their control, including  
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29 clinical training opportunities, availability of appropriate information for patients, and patient access to  
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31 vaccination (Figure 1).  
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38 *Patient-Provider Relationship*

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41 HCPs observed their patients were usually not aware of the new Tdap recommendation. Acceptance of  
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43 Tdap vaccine was strongly influenced by HCP's recommendation and by their patients' trust in this  
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45 opinion:  
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48 *"They're not just trusting the science, they're trusting the person delivering the science."*

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51 (Family physician, urban center, BC)  
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3 Physicians and nurses reported leveraging their rapport to make an unequivocal recommendation in  
4 support of Tdap; however, midwives' approaches to vaccine counseling varied. Some midwives  
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6 described recommending Tdap and following up on their client's vaccination status through subsequent  
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8 visits. Other said expressing a personal opinion or making a recommendation in favor of vaccine would  
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10 compromise the principle of informed choice upon which the client-midwife relationship is based. They  
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12 saw their role as informing women about the Tdap vaccine and then directing them to public health or  
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14 physicians for further advice. Finally, some midwives believed vaccine counseling was not part of their  
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16 professional role.  
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### 25 *Clinical Training*

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28 While all study participants were aware of the Tdap recommendation, their practice setting appeared to  
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30 influence both vaccine knowledge acquisition and ability to consistently incorporate vaccine  
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32 recommendation into clinical work. HCPs' descriptions of how they learned about and implemented the  
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34 Tdap vaccine recommendation in their practice illustrated that the NACI/SOGC recommendation was  
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36 not disseminated via coordinated HCP training. Providers who drew upon their existing experience  
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38 providing childhood or other pregnancy vaccines (e.g., nurses or family physicians) often felt well  
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40 prepared to recommend and provide Tdap. Several rural family physicians and midwives, working in  
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42 jurisdictions where all vaccines were delivered through public health programs, described feeling  
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44 inadequately prepared to discuss Tdap. With multiple, competing priorities for continuing medical  
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46 education, vaccine-related training was perceived as less directly relevant to their clinical practice.  
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3 When asked for suggestions about vaccine continuing education, providers agreed such training should  
4 be succinct, equipping them with patient-directed information and practical suggestions on how to best  
5 communicate the information in their practice settings. This included rationale for the new vaccine  
6 recommendation, risk of infant pertussis, vaccine effectiveness, approaches to talking to vaccine  
7 hesitant patients, and in some cases, clarification about vaccine funding and access. Some HCPs valued  
8 interactive training sessions that facilitated discussion, as described by a midwife who attended a talk on  
9 Tdap and consistently recommended the vaccine in her practice:

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20 *“ [I] think part of the value of it was that all of us [midwives] were together. . . [I]t is*  
21 *useful to hear what your peers and colleagues think and have the opportunity to*  
22 *ask questions.” (Midwife, NS)*

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27 Many HCPs also emphasized the importance of being linked with academic institutions, and of sharing  
28 vaccine updates or questions with colleagues through practice group meetings, academic rounds or  
29 online forums.  
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### 38 *Lay Information Resources*

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41 HCPs said information resources for patients and their families were an important part of the vaccine  
42 discussion and were hindered by a lack of appropriate, widely-available resources for pregnant women.  
43 Participants reported that standardized paper and online resources, similar to those for childhood  
44 vaccines, would enable patients to verify information outside of the clinic visit and help validate HCPs'  
45 recommendations:  
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53 *[H]aving something that . . . provides [patients] with the information they care about,*  
54 *like “Why now, Canada? And what are the risks, what do we know safety-wise, and what*

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3 *are the expected benefits?” would just help. . . . [I]t’s not that I’m going to not say those*  
4 *things, but it’s good for me to say them and then have them take a small part home.*

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7 *(Obstetrician, urban center, ON)*  
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#### 10 11 12 13 14 *Vaccine Access*

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17 Participants believed convenient access to publicly funded vaccines was essential to enable vaccine  
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19 uptake. In an ideal scenario, a HCP’s vaccine recommendation would be followed by offering the vaccine  
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21 immediately at the point-of-care, especially for patients who had difficulties navigating multiple medical  
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23 appointments:  
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26 *[I]f I told them [patients] to go somewhere else, they would never go. They don’t even*  
27 *show up to most of their appointments with me. So if we don’t do something at the*  
28 *moment that we have that window, it doesn’t get done with people who don’t have a*  
29 *car and don’t have a license and if they’re using substances, they may not be able to*  
30 *keep good track of time. (Family physician, urban center, MB)*  
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42 HCPs with a vaccine fridge were able to vaccinate at the point-of-care. HCPs who did not vaccinate were  
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44 oftentimes frustrated when vaccine was not readily available through public health clinics or  
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46 pharmacies. Some felt the national recommendation for Tdap was made before ensuring “adequate  
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48 infrastructure was in place to provide it” (Obstetrician, urban center, QC). HCPs, including but not  
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50 limited to midwives, pointed out vaccinating was not within midwives’ scope of practice in ON and QC.  
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52 Some wondered whether this may have a negative impact on vaccine uptake among midwifery clients.  
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3 Finally, HCPs in BC and ON were concerned that a lack of public funding for the vaccine contributed to  
4 inequitable vaccine access for marginalized women. One HCP reported not discussing Tdap at all  
5 because they thought recommending the vaccine put undue pressure on women without financial  
6 means to afford it. Additionally, lack of public funding resulted in providers having to counter patients'  
7 perceptions that antenatal Tdap was less important or less safe than publicly funded vaccines.  
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## 18 INTERPRETATION

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24 Major influences on HCPs' abilities to provide and recommend antenatal Tdap vaccine identified  
25 through our study included appropriate clinical training, lay information resources, and vaccine access  
26 for patients. Numerous barriers to implementing the NACI/SOGC Tdap recommendation highlighted by  
27 participating HCPs suggest that Canada's fragmented healthcare model is having a detrimental effect on  
28 perinatal HCP's ability to recommend and provide Tdap vaccine and ensure universal access in  
29 pregnancy. A structured approach to delivery of vaccination programs is important to achieve high and  
30 inclusive vaccine uptake and close the gap between national vaccine recommendations and clinical  
31 practice (8,22,23). In a Canadian context, this means implementing a coordinated, overarching  
32 nationwide pertussis vaccination program, ensuring that vaccine is publicly funded and easily accessible  
33 for all pregnant women, regardless of in which province/territory they receive prenatal care, and that all  
34 perinatal providers are appropriately supported, trained and feel confident recommending it.  
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53 Study participants confirmed that pregnant women value a confident vaccine recommendation by a  
54 trusted provider. A Canadian survey conducted before the NACI/SOGC recommendation of antenatal  
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3 Tdap concluded a national recommendation to receive pertussis vaccine supported by physician's  
4 recommendation would be well received by pregnant women (24). Given that it is common for patients  
5 to seek to triangulate non-emergency health information (25), widely available lay information  
6 resources for pregnant women may serve to reinforce the trust in and acceptance of HCPs'  
7 recommendations. Routine vaccine recommendation and provision by midwives may improve  
8 pregnancy vaccine access and uptake (26,27). Our study highlights that midwives' perceived role in  
9 vaccinating varies, and may depend on individual midwife's interpretation of informed choice and  
10 vaccine-related training they have received (27,28). The fact that provision of pregnancy vaccines is  
11 currently not within the midwives' scope of practice in all provinces may also contribute to this.  
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27 HCPs need current, consistent and reliable vaccine knowledge and access to concise training updates, as  
28 well as confidence in their communication skills and the time and ability to incorporate vaccine  
29 discussions into regular practice to be adequately prepared to recommend and provide vaccines (29).  
30 Coordinated clinical training around antenatal Tdap for Canadian perinatal providers would ensure all  
31 HCPs have access to the same information and resources, improve vaccine communication skills, and  
32 provide a chance for interdisciplinary collaboration. As suggested by study participants, such training  
33 should be succinct, practice-focused, and interactive. Linking vaccine updates with other educational  
34 activities could increase appeal to HCPs with multiple competing priorities. This coordinated training  
35 could also be implemented with any other future new vaccine recommendations.  
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51 Tdap vaccine is currently not accessible to all pregnant women in Canada. Vaccinating at point-of-care  
52 facilitates vaccine access, but may not be realistic in all practice settings, as observed previously in  
53 Quebec (13). This finding underscores the need for on-going communication and coordination between  
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3 perinatal HCPs and public health units or pharmacies to optimize convenient access. Importantly,  
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5 current lack of universal public funding for the vaccine is further compromising vaccine access for  
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7 women who cannot afford it.  
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### 10 11 12 13 14 *Future Research Directions*

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17 Additional research is needed to triangulate these findings with the perspectives of pregnant women,  
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19 representatives from public health, and policy-makers. This should include a nuanced discussion about  
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21 ways to foster vaccine uptake while respecting women's autonomy in diverse communities and practice  
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23 settings. SOGC recently released a Vaccination in Pregnancy online course for providers (30) along with  
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25 a video and an e-book for patients (31). Evaluation of these resources will be helpful in determining  
26  
27 whether the need for lay resources and clinical training identified in our study are being met. Finally,  
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29 given the variety of HCPs providing perinatal care, studies assessing initiatives to increase vaccine  
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31 acceptance and access through interprofessional collaboration and integrated provision of care would  
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33 be timely.  
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### 41 *Limitations*

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44 Providers who agreed to participate in this study may have had greater vaccine knowledge and  
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46 confidence than the typical Canadian maternity HCP, including familiarity with the Tdap guidelines. Due  
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48 to the lack of comprehensive pregnancy vaccination registries, we were unable to explore relationships  
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50 among the various barriers and facilitators identified by individual providers and the vaccine uptake  
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52 rates in their communities. Interviews took place over 14 months, with earlier interviews conducted  
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54 shortly after the NACI/SOGC recommendation. We acknowledge that some of the early concerns raised  
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3 by HCPs may have subsequently been resolved in their health jurisdictions, but the findings from our  
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5 research would be applicable with any new vaccine recommendation.  
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### 10 11 *Conclusion*

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14 Canadian perinatal HCPs and the patients they serve would benefit from an overarching nation-wide  
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16 Tdap vaccination strategy and universal vaccine funding to facilitate national implementation of the  
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18 SOGC/NACI recommendation. Elements of this coordinated approach should include: efficient clinical  
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20 training, high-quality patient information materials, and universal coverage and patient access. Lessons  
21  
22 learned from the Canadian Tdap vaccination program may be pertinent not only to the Tdap vaccine but  
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24 to the implementation of pregnancy vaccination programs more broadly.  
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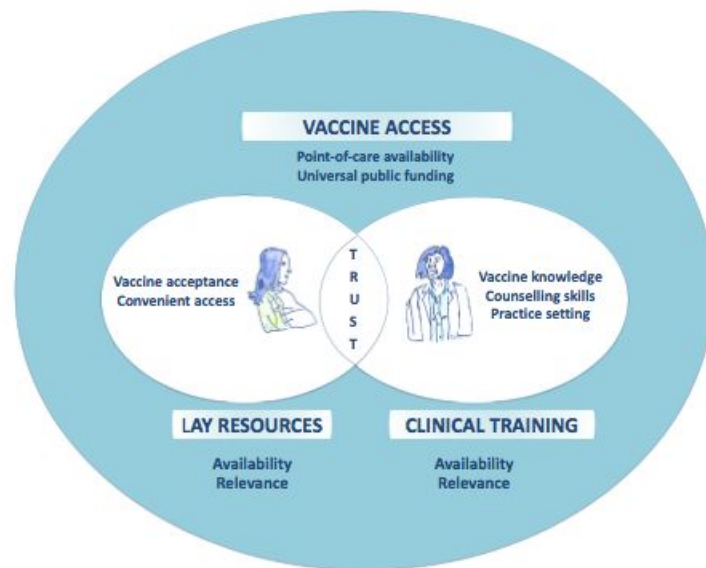
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	British Columbia	Manitoba	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Quebec	<b>TOTAL</b>
Family Physician	6	1	1	2	3	<b>13</b>
Registered Midwife	4	4	1	1	2	<b>12</b>
Nurse	2	1	1	2	3	<b>9</b>
Obstetrician	1	1	2	3	3	<b>10</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>44</b>
PRACTICE SETTING: Rural (< 1, 000 inhabitants): 3 Small town (1,000-< 30, 000 inhabitants): 11 Medium town (30,000-< 100, 000 inhabitants): 3 Urban center (≥ 100, 000 inhabitants): 27		TIME IN PRACTICE: Range: 1-43 years Average: 13 years Median: 12 years		PROVIDED PERTUSSIS VACCINE AT POINT-OF-CARE AT THE TIME OF THE INTERVIEW: 18/44		

Table 1: Study participants' characteristics

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**Figure 1: Influences on perinatal providers' ability to recommend and provide pertussis (Tdap) vaccine in pregnancy**

## Standards for Reporting Qualitative Research (SRQR)

O'Brien B.C., Harris, I.B., Beckman, T.J., Reed, D.A., & Cook, D.A. (2014). Standards for reporting qualitative research: a synthesis of recommendations. *Academic Medicine*, 89(9), 1245-1251.

No.	Topic	Item
	<b>Title and abstract</b>	
S1	Title <b>TITLE PAGE</b>	Concise description of the nature and topic of the study identifying the study as qualitative or indicating the approach (e.g., ethnography, grounded theory) or data collection methods (e.g., interview, focus group) is recommended
S2	Abstract <b>ABSTRACT</b>	Summary of key elements of the study using the abstract format of the intended publication; typically includes objective, methods, results, and conclusions
	<b>Introduction</b>	
S3	Problem formulation <b>INTRODUCTION: PARAGRAPH 2</b>	Description and significance of the problem/phenomenon studied; review of relevant theory and empirical work; problem statement
S4	Purpose or research question <b>INTRODUCTION: PARAGRAPH 2</b>	Purpose of the study and specific objectives or questions
	<b>Methods</b>	
S5	Qualitative approach and research paradigm <b>METHODS: DATA ANALYSIS SECTION</b>	Qualitative approach (e.g., ethnography, grounded theory, case study, phenomenology, narrative research) and guiding theory if appropriate; identifying the research paradigm (e.g., positivist, constructivist/interpretivist) is also recommended
S6	Researcher characteristics and reflexivity <b>AUTHORS CREDENTIALS and FUNDING STATEMENT METHODS: DATA COLLECTION</b>	Researchers' characteristics that may influence the research, including personal attributes, qualifications/experience, relationship with participants, assumptions, or presuppositions; potential or actual interaction between researchers' characteristics and the research questions, approach, methods, results, or transferability
S7	Context	Setting/site and salient contextual factors; rationale <sup>a</sup>
S8	Sampling strategy <b>METHODS: PARAGRAPH 1</b>	How and why research participants, documents, or events were selected; criteria for deciding when no further sampling was necessary (e.g., sampling saturation); rationale <sup>a</sup>
S9	Ethical issues pertaining to human subjects <b>METHODS: PARAGRAPH 2</b>	Documentation of approval by an appropriate ethics review board and participant consent, or explanation for lack thereof; other confidentiality and data security issues

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	S10 Data collection methods <b>METHODS: DATA COLLECTION</b>	Types of data collected; details of data collection procedures including (as appropriate) start and stop dates of data collection and analysis, iterative process, triangulation of sources/methods, and modification of procedures in response to evolving study findings; rationale <sup>a</sup>
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	S11 Data collection instruments and technologies <b>METHODS: PARAGRAPH 3 (DATA COLLECTION)</b>	Description of instruments (e.g., interview guides, questionnaires) and devices (e.g., audio recorders) used for data collection; if/how the instrument(s) changed over the course of the study
16 17 18 19 20	S12 Units of study <b>RESULTS: PARAGRAPH 1 and TABLE 1</b>	Number and relevant characteristics of participants, documents, or events included in the study; level of participation (could be reported in results)
21 22 23 24 25	S13 Data processing <b>METHODS: PARAGRAPH 3 (DATA COLLECTION) AND PARAGRAPH 4 (DATA ANALYSIS)</b>	Methods for processing data prior to and during analysis, including transcription, data entry, data management and security, verification of data integrity, data coding, and anonymization/deidentification of excerpts
26 27 28	S14 Data analysis <b>METHODS: DATA ANALYSIS AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS AS LISTED IN THE TITLE PAGE</b>	Process by which inferences, themes, etc., were identified and developed, including researchers involved in data analysis; usually references a specific paradigm or approach; rationale <sup>a</sup>
29 30 31 32 33 34	S15 Techniques to enhance trustworthiness <b>METHODS: PARAGRAPH 2 AND PAARAGRAPH 3 (DATA COLLECTION)</b>	Techniques to enhance trustworthiness and credibility of data analysis (e.g., member checking, audit trail, triangulation); rationale <sup>a</sup>
35 36 37	<b>Results/Findings</b>	
38 39 40 41 42	S16 Synthesis and interpretation <b>RESULTS AND FIGURE 1 DIAGRAM</b>	Main findings (e.g., interpretations, inferences, and themes); might include development of a theory or model, or integration with prior research or theory
43 44 45	S17 Links to empirical data <b>RESULTS - QUOTES</b>	Evidence (e.g., quotes, field notes, text excerpts, photographs) to substantiate analytic findings
46 47	<b>Discussion</b>	
48 49 50 51 52	S18 Integration with prior work, implications, transferability, and contribution(s) to the field <b>DISCUSSION</b>	Short summary of main findings; explanation of how findings and conclusions connect to, support, elaborate on, or challenge conclusions of earlier scholarship; discussion of scope of application/generalizability; identification of unique contribution(s) to scholarship in a discipline or field
53 54 55 56 57	S19 Limitations <b>DISCUSSION</b>	Trustworthiness and limitations of findings
58 59 60	<b>Other</b>	
	S20 Conflicts of interest <b>TITLE PAGE</b>	Potential sources of influence or perceived influence on study conduct and conclusions; how these were managed
	S21 Funding <b>TITLE PAGE</b>	Sources of funding and other support; role of funders in data collection, interpretation, and reporting

<sup>a</sup>The rationale should briefly discuss the justification for choosing that theory, approach, method, or technique rather than other options available, the assumptions and limitations implicit in those choices, and how those choices influence study conclusions and transferability. As appropriate, the rationale for several items might be discussed together.

Interview Guide

**Unpacking Vaccine Hesitancy among Perinatal Healthcare Providers: Influences on Beliefs and Practices**

Thank you for agreeing to do an interview with us today.

The purpose of these interviews with health care providers across the country is to help us better understand the reasons you do or do not discuss, recommend, or administer vaccines in your practice.

As a reminder, we will be audio-recording this interview. We will keep your personal information strictly confidential, and you will have the opportunity to review the transcript for accuracy and privacy issues.

You can skip any question you do not wish to answer, for any reason.

Do you have any questions for me before we begin?

1. Please tell me a little about your clinical practice. Where and how do you practice, and what are your patients/clients like?

Possible probes:

- a. How and why did you end up doing what you do?
- b. Have you always worked there, or did you begin in a different setting?
- c. Do you have an overarching philosophy or goal for your patient care?

2. How do you do to keep up-to-date with guidelines and recommendations on clinical topics or new therapies?

Possible probes:

- a. Do you have the kind of time and support you need to find and integrate new evidence into your practice?
- b. Do you feel like you have the skills you need?
- c. Do you and colleagues share new evidence with each other? How?
- d. What kind of education, if any, do you have in critical appraisal of research, or in epidemiology?
- e. How well do you feel your training in use of medical evidence prepared you for actual clinical work?

## Interview Guide

**Unpacking Vaccine Hesitancy among Perinatal Healthcare Providers: Influences on Beliefs and Practices**

## 3. What are your thoughts about Canada's infant vaccinations?

## Possible probes:

- a. How safe do you think they are?
- b. How effective do you think they are?
- c. What do you think about the recommended schedule?

## 4. What are your thoughts about vaccinations in pregnancy?

## Possible probes:

- a. What special considerations do you take into account with pregnant patients/clients in particular?
- b. Are there particular vaccines you have any concerns about in pregnancy?
- c. Are there any particular vaccines that you wish existed or could be given in pregnancy?

## 5. Do you think your beliefs about vaccines are shared by a majority of colleagues in your discipline? Why or why not?

## 6. Do you recall any clinical training that attempted provided with information on immunization? How about any continuing professional education?

## Possible probes:

- a. What did you think of them? How effective was it? What do you remember about it?
- b. Is there any type of training or support you would like, or that you think others in your profession would benefit from?

## Interview Guide

**Unpacking Vaccine Hesitancy among Perinatal Healthcare Providers: Influences on Beliefs and Practices**

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5 7. Do you routinely discuss vaccines with your patients/clients? This could be about  
6 vaccines in pregnancy, vaccines to get before or after pregnancy, or the infant  
7 vaccination schedule.  
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## Possible probes:

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11 a. What vaccines do you discuss?  
12 b. How does it come up? Do you bring it up or do they? Do you have any clinical  
13 reminder systems for vaccination?  
14 c. How frequently does this happen? Always? Usually? Occasionally?  
15 d. What do you touch on in these conversations?  
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22 8. Do you regularly make recommendations or express a strong opinion for or against  
23 vaccines with your patients/clients? This could be about vaccines in pregnancy, vaccines  
24 to get before or after pregnancy, or the infant vaccination schedule.  
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## Possible probes:

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28 a. If YES: About which ones? How does this go? What do you say to them? Can  
29 pretend I'm a patient and give an example of what you might say?  
30 b. If NO: Why do you refrain from making recommendations? (e.g., have no strong  
31 opinion, don't want to alienate patients, model of care)  
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37 9. Do you regularly provide any vaccines to clients in your practice or clinic?  
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## Possible probes:

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41 a. If YES: Which ones? How did you decide to provide that/those?  
42 b. If YES: Who administers them? How do you manage the logistics? Are there any  
43 challenges?  
44 c. If NO: Why not?  
45 d. In NO: Is there anything that could change that would encourage you to provide  
46 vaccines? (e.g., better evidence on effectiveness or safety, easier to purchase or  
47 bill for vaccines, more time in patient interactions, etc.)  
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54 10. What, if anything, do you think would make it more likely that a majority of your  
55 colleagues would recommend or offer vaccination in their clinical practice?  
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Interview Guide

**Unpacking Vaccine Hesitancy among Perinatal Healthcare Providers: Influences on Beliefs and Practices**

11. Are there other thoughts you would like to share about your clinical practice, your training, and your views on vaccination?

Thank you for your time and expertise! We will be in touch with your thank-you honorarium, and later on to invite you to review your interview transcript.

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Guide d'entrevue

**L'hésitation à la vaccination chez les professionnels de la santé qui font des suivis de grossesse : Influences sur les croyances et les pratiques**

Merci d'avoir accepté de participer à une entrevue individuelle avec nous aujourd'hui.

Le but des entrevues que nous menons actuellement auprès de professionnels de la santé qui font des suivis de grossesse à travers le pays est de nous aider à mieux comprendre les raisons pour lesquelles vous discutez (ou non), vous recommandez (ou non) et vous administrez (ou non) des vaccins dans le cadre de votre pratique.

Je tiens à vous rappeler que cette entrevue sera enregistrée. Vos informations personnelles seront conservées de façon confidentielle et vous aurez la possibilité de relire la transcription de votre entrevue afin d'en vérifier l'exactitude et d'y apporter des corrections s'il y a lieu.

Durant l'entrevue, vous pouvez également choisir de ne pas répondre à une question si vous le souhaitez.

Avez-vous des questions avant de débiter l'entrevue?

1. Tout d'abord, j'aimerais que vous me parliez un peu de votre pratique clinique. À quel endroit pratiquez-vous? Quel est votre type de pratique? Décrivez-moi votre clientèle.

Sous-questions:

- a. Comment et pourquoi avez-vous choisi de faire ce que vous faites?
- b. Avez-vous toujours travaillé à [cet endroit] ou bien votre parcours vous-a-t-il amené à travailler ailleurs?
- c. Avez-vous une philosophie particulière ou un objectif lorsque vous offrez des soins à vos patients/clients?

2. De quelle façon/Par quels moyens vous gardez-vous à jour en ce qui concerne les lignes directrices et les recommandations sur des sujets liés à votre pratique clinique ou sur de nouveaux traitements?

Sous-questions:

- a. Avez-vous le temps et le soutien nécessaire pour être au courant et pour intégrer de nouvelles évidences/informations dans votre pratique?
- b. Sentez-vous que vous avez les habiletés nécessaires pour le faire?
- c. Vous arrive-t-il de partager entre collègues de nouvelles évidences/informations? Si oui, comment?
- d. Avez-vous reçu de la formation en lien avec la recherche ou l'épidémiologie?

## Guide d'entrevue

**L'hésitation à la vaccination chez les professionnels de la santé qui font des suivis de grossesse : Influences sur les croyances et les pratiques**

- e. Estimez-vous que votre formation académique vous a bien préparé(e) pour utiliser les évidences médicales dans votre pratique clinique?

3. Que pensez-vous de la vaccination infantile au Canada?

Sous-questions:

- a. À quel point considérez-vous que les vaccins administrés/recommandés aux enfants sont sécuritaires?
- b. À quel point considérez-vous que les vaccins administrés/recommandés aux enfants sont efficaces?
- c. Que pensez-vous du calendrier vaccinal qui est recommandé?

4. Que pensez-vous de la vaccination durant la grossesse?

Sous-questions:

- a. Prenez-vous des dispositions spéciales avec les patientes enceintes?
- b. Avez-vous des inquiétudes face à certains vaccins en particulier durant la grossesse?
- c. Y a-t-il certains vaccins que vous aimeriez qui existent ou qui puissent être administrés durant la grossesse?

5. Croyez-vous qu'une majorité de vos collègues exerçant dans votre discipline partage vos opinions au sujet des vaccins? Si oui, pourquoi? Si non, pourquoi?

6. Vous souvenez-vous d'avoir assisté à ou d'avoir suivi une formation clinique au cours de laquelle des informations sur la vaccination vous ont été données? Et qu'en est-il pour les formations médicales continues auxquelles vous auriez-pu assister?

Sous-questions:

- a. Qu'en avez-vous pensé? Avez-vous trouvé cela utile? Que vous souvenez-vous de cette formation/ces formations?
- b. Est-ce qu'il existe une formation ou un type de soutien que vous aimeriez avoir ou qui, selon vous, serait utile pour des professionnels comme vous?

## Guide d'entrevue

**L'hésitation à la vaccination chez les professionnels de la santé qui font des suivis de grossesse : Influences sur les croyances et les pratiques**

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7. Discutez-vous de façon régulière de la vaccination avec vos patient(e)s/client(e)s? Cela peut être autant au sujet de la vaccination durant la grossesse, que de la vaccination avant ou après la grossesse ou bien du calendrier vaccinal de l'enfant.

## Sous-questions:

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- a. De quel(s) vaccin(s) discutez-vous?
  - b. De quelle(s) façon(s) le sujet est-il abordé? Abordez-vous le sujet en premier ou vos patient(e)s/client(e)s vous parlent-elles de la vaccination d'emblée?
  - c. À quelle fréquence cela arrive-t-il? Toujours? Souvent? Occasionnellement?
  - d. Qu'abordez-vous généralement lors de ces discussions?

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8. Dans le cadre de votre pratique, recommandez-vous souvent ou vous exprimez-vous souvent en faveur ou en défaveur de la vaccination? Cela peut être autant au sujet de la vaccination durant la grossesse, que de la vaccination avant ou après la grossesse ou bien du calendrier vaccinal de l'enfant.

## Sous-questions:

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- a. Si OUI : Au sujet de quel(s) vaccin(s)? Comment ces discussions se passent-elles? Que dites-vous à vos patient(e)s? Vous pouvez faire semblant que je suis un(e) de vos patient(e)s pour me donner un exemple de ce que vous pourriez dire.
  - c. Si NON : Pour quelle(s) raison(s) ne faites-vous pas de recommandations? (par exemple : aucune opinion particulière sur la vaccination, ne veut pas frustrer/déranger ses patientes, modèle de soins existant)

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9. Dans votre pratique ou votre clinique, est-ce que des vaccins sont régulièrement administrés aux patient(e)s/client(e)s?

## Sous-questions:

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- a. Si OUI : Lesquels? Comment s'est prise la décision d'offrir ces vaccins?
  - b. Si OUI : Qui administrent les vaccins? De quelle façon la vaccination est-elle offerte? (Parlez-moi un peu de la logistique entourant l'administration des vaccins?) Est-ce que vous rencontrez des défis particuliers?
  - c. Si NON : Pourquoi?

## Guide d'entrevue

**L'hésitation à la vaccination chez les professionnels de la santé qui font des suivis de grossesse : Influences sur les croyances et les pratiques**

- d. Si NON : Qu'est-ce qui pourrait vous encourager à offrir la vaccination dans votre milieu de pratique/clinique? (par exemple, davantage de preuves entourant l'efficacité ou la sécurité des vaccins, plus grande facilité pour l'achat et la facturation, plus de temps avec les patient(e)s durant les rendez-vous, etc.)

10. Selon vous, qu'est-ce qui ferait en sorte que la majorité de vos collègues recommande ou offre la vaccination dans leur pratique clinique?

11. Est-ce que vous aimeriez ajouter autre chose sur votre pratique clinique, votre formation ou vos perceptions de la vaccination avant que l'on termine l'entrevue?

Merci beaucoup pour votre temps et votre expertise! Nous vous recontacterons sous peu au sujet de la compensation financière pour le temps que vous avez accordé à cette entrevue ainsi que pour la relecture de la transcription de votre entrevue.