



ICIS 2022 COVID-19 Information

ICIS is an international organization, and our foundational principles include embracing and celebrating a diversity of perspectives and ideals. We ask that you join us in creating an environment that allows everyone to feel safe and stay healthy as they learn about new discoveries in infancy research and reconnect with old friends.

With all of this in mind, we write to convey the following facts about the current conditions in Ottawa and our expectations about how we will handle COVID-related behaviors during the meeting.

Vaccines

- As of the writing of this document, people traveling internationally to Ottawa need to show proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID. People traveling domestically do not need to show such proof.
- The vaccination rate in Canada is generally quite high. In the city of Ottawa, 89% of the population has had at least two doses of a COVID vaccine. Last week in Ottawa (total population = 1.4 million people), there were 40 new COVID cases.

Masks

- Mask-wearing in public spaces is not currently required by Canada, Ontario, Ottawa, or the Westin hotel where the conference will be held.
- Out of an abundance of caution, and out of respect for all attendees, we **strongly encourage mask-wearing** throughout the conference spaces and especially at poster sessions where social distancing may not be possible. Speakers giving talks with plenty of distance between themselves and the audience will not need to wear masks during their talks.
- We ask that you bring a high-quality (N-95 or similar) mask with you to the conference so you can wear it throughout.
- We will separate food and drink from the poster sessions to create a safer environment at the posters. Eating and drinking at posters will not be allowed.