Rabbi Benjamin Weiss

קרונתן בנימין וויים

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בעזהי"ת

יום א' ח' ניסן תשפ"א לפ"ק, פה מאנטריאל יצ"ו.

לכל מאן דבעי

רבים השואלים אם לקחת החיסון (וואקסינישון) נגד מחלת ה'קוביד' Covid 19 האם יש הבדל בין הסוגים השונים של החיסון, הנני בזה להביע את דעתי שיש מצוה וחובה על פי תורה והשקפה יהודית לקחת כל חיסון שלדעת מומחי הרפואה היא במוחה ויעילה למנוע את התפשמות המחלה, ולדעתם היא מצילת חיים ממש, ואין לשים לב לשמועות המחלקים בין סוגי החיסונים, וכבר מלתי אמורה דבמה שאנו אומרים בברכת קריאת שמע "בורא רפואות", כלולים גם הרפואות שהקב"ה ברא ובורא בכל דור ודור, ושזה כולל גם ענין החיסונים למיניהם, וכשאנו עושים את ההשתדלות כפי שצוותה לנו התוה"ק, נזכה שהקב"ה שהוא הרופא האמיתי ישלח רפואה שלימה במהרה לכל חולי עמו בני ישראל ברוב רחמיו וחסדיו.

הכו"ח והמצפה לקחמי ה',

יהונתן בנימין וויים

אבדק"ק מאנטריאל

To Whom it may concern

In response to many queries concerning vaccination for Covid 19, and if there is a difference between the various available options. I wish to state clearly that according to *Halacha* and Jewish tradition it is a *Mitzvah* and an obligation to get vaccinated with any shot which has been established by the relevant medical authorities as safe and effective in preventing the spread of the disease. It is clearly life saving. The rumors that differentiate between the various types of vaccinations should be disregarded. As I have stated in the past, it is clear that when we state in the morning prayers, *Borei Refuos Hashem Creates Remedies*, this refers to all new medical developments *including vaccinations*. With doing our proper *Hishtadlus* may we merit that *Hashem* the true *Healer* send a *Refua Shleima* speedily to all in need.



בס"ד

March 21, 2021

8 Nisan 5781

After a challenging year, we have reason for optimism on the eve of Passover and the first seder. Public Health and the CIUSSS West-Central Montreal have announced a pilot project where the parents of children in schools and day cares in northern Cote St-Luc and the Plamondon area can be vaccinated between March 22 and April 4. The schools involved are:

- Beth Rivkah Academy
- Bialik High School
- École communautaire Belz, Campus Hillsdale, English section
- Ecole Maimonides, Parkhaven Campus
- Hebrew Academy
- IPPS
- Solomon Schechter Academy
- Talmud Torah | Herzliah
- Yaldei
- Yeshiva Gedola-Merkaz Hatorah de Montréal
- Yeshiva Yavne

The rationale for this initiative is that a new strain of the coronavirus, the British variant, has been circulating in Montreal over the past weeks. This variant is much more contagious and is associated with a higher risk of hospitalization and death in vulnerable people. Vaccines can help limit the infection and reduce the risks of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Currently, the British variant of the virus is spreading quickly in the Côte Saint-Luc and Plamondon neighbourhoods, which represent 25% of all the new cases in the city.

We encourage eligible parents to take advantage of this unique opportunity to be vaccinated. Another piece of good news is that a new vaccination centre just opened at the Université de Montréal, MIL campus. The facility is located at 1375 Thérèse-Lavoie-Roux Avenue and is accessible from the Acadie métro station via a pedestrian bridge. There are already accessible sites at Décarie Square (Métro Namur) and Bill Durnan Arena (Métro Plamondon).

In addition, if you were born in 1961 or earlier please sign up to be vaccinated at www.quebec.ca/covidvaccine or at 514-644-4545 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Finally, the Quebec government has announced that as of March 26 up to 25 people will be able to participate in services as long as social distancing is respected.