INJECTION AUTHORITY AND VACCINE ADMINISTRATION IN PHARMACIES ACROSS CANADA

Authority Temporary authority under an emergency order		V Vaccines		Drugs and vaccines			es 🚺	Limited authority			X No authority		
	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	PE	NL	ΥT	NWT	NU
Pharmacist Injection Authority and Presc	ribing												I
Scope of injection authority ^{1,2}	Pv	Dv	Dv	D _V	Dv		Dv	Dv	D _V	D _V	DV	X	X
Pharmacists authorized to prescribe vaccines ³	К	C C	D E	F	G		P E	K H			G	X	X
Pharmacist Administration of Vaccines ^{4,5}	, L												
Influenza	*\$	×\$	*\$	×\$	×\$	×\$	*\$	×\$	*\$	×\$	*\$	X	X
COVID-19	*\$	*\$	*\$	*\$	*\$	×\$	*\$	×\$	×\$	*\$	*\$	X	X
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)		\$	~	~	\checkmark	~	~	~	\checkmark	~	\checkmark	X	X
Pneumococcal	*\$	*\$	 Image: A start of the start of	*\$	\checkmark	×\$	~		\checkmark	\checkmark	~	X	X
Meningococcal	*\$	\checkmark				*\$		*\$			~	X	X
Haemophilus influenza B (Hib)	*\$					*\$						X	X
Hepatitis A	*\$	~				*\$					~	X	X
Hepatitis B	*\$	~				*\$					\checkmark	X	X
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	*\$				X	*\$						X	X
Diphtheria, tetanus (with/without pertussis)	*\$	*\$		*\$	X	*\$		\checkmark			~	X	X
Varicella zoster (chickenpox)	*\$	~						\checkmark			~	X	X
Herpes zoster (shingles)						*\$			*\$		*\$	X	X
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	*\$	~		*\$		*\$					*\$	X	X
Polio	*\$	~			X	×\$		\checkmark			~	X	X
Pharmacy Student Injection Authority ^{4,6}					I				I	I			
Influenza		~	 Image: A start of the start of	\checkmark	\checkmark	 Image: A start of the start of			X		X	X	X
COVID-19				X					X		X	X	X
Other drugs/vaccines ⁷		~	X	X	~			\checkmark	X		Χ	X	X
Pharmacy Technician Injection Authority	4,6,8	-	-	-	-	-							
Influenza	X	X		X		\checkmark					X	X	X
COVID-19	X	X		X							X	X	X
Other drugs/vaccines ⁷	X	X	X	X	K						X	X	X

Minimum Patient Age

			1	1								
Minimum patient age	≥2 years intranasal ≥4 years injectable	≥2 years	≥5 years	≥2 years influenza, COVID-19 ≥5 years other injectable, excl. vaccines ≥7 years other vaccines	influenza ≥5 years all other injectable	influenza	≥2 years	restriction	≥2 years intranasal influenza ≥5 years influenza, rabies (pre- exposure), traveller's diarrhea, or other drugs ≥12 years COVID-19 ≥18 years other vaccines	≥ 2 years influenza, COVID-19 ≥ 5 years all other injectable	≥5 years	

General:

* Pharmacists may access and administer publicly-funded vaccine; note that for each infectious disease, the individual vaccine product(s) included in public programs through pharmacies may vary by jurisdiction. Patient eligibility may vary by jurisdiction.

\$ Remuneration is provided by P/T government for publicly-funded vaccine administration or assessment/prescribing of vaccine. Patient eligibility may vary by jurisdiction.

1. Pharmacists are required to complete hands-on training for administration of drug products or vaccines by injection and they must register their training with the appropriate regulatory authorities.

2. Authority excludes injectable cosmetic treatments (except in AB)

3. Prescribing authority is subject to additional training and/or regulatory requirements. Regulations vary by jurisdiction.

4. Injection and CPR training and application to regulatory authority required in most cases. Specific requirement vary by jurisdiction and pharmacy professional.

5. This is not a comprehensive list of all vaccines pharmacists may administer by injection.

6. Under supervision of a pharmacist with injection authority.

7. Scope of injection authority varies by jurisdiction.

8. Authority is limited to the technical functions of drug/vaccine administration.

Jurisdictional:

A. May administer other drugs for patient education/demonstration and in an emergency.

B. No prescription required for most vaccines, incl. influenza, COVID-19, and any vaccine part of a routine immunization program.

C. Pharmacists with Additional Prescribing Authority may prescribe vaccines.

D. Pharmacists with an Extended Practice Certificate may prescribe for a list of preventable and/or travel related diseases approved by the provincial regulator.

E. Prescribing for certain travel-related diseases (SK, NB) or providing comprehensive travel health services (NS) requires additional training in travel medicine.

F. A pharmacist cannot administer a vaccine that has been prescribed by a pharmacist. Six vaccines can be administered without a prescription only if the patient is eligible for the publicly funded vaccine (HPV, Tdap, diphtheria, tetanus, pneumcoccal, influenza and COVID).

- G. A prescription is not required for vaccines listed in Schedule II of NAPRA's National Drug Schedules.
- H. No prescription required for any vaccine under the provincial immunization program.
- I. For travel indications.
- J. RSV vaccine only.
- K. Under emergency order, there are no age restrictions for the administration of influenza and COVID-19 vaccines.
- L. Pharmacists at Community Pharmacy Primary Care Clinics in Nova Scotia are paid to administer to patients eligible for the publicly funded program.

Adapted with permission from Fonseca J, Sharpe JP, Houle SKD, Waite NM. Time for harmonization: pharmacists as immunizers across Canadian jurisdictions. *Can Pharm J* (Ott) 2019; 152:395-400.

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