

Executive Officer Notice: Information on the Rollout of Publicly Funded COVID-19 Vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies

Effective March 10, 2021, the Government of Ontario began funding select pharmacies to administer COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario as part of an initial pilot. The province is committed to expanding vaccine delivery channels to expedite the delivery of vaccinations to all Ontarians and is expected to enroll approximately 1,500 pharmacies across the Province by the end of April. For details on the provincial COVID-19 vaccine rollout plan, please visit the ministry's [website](#).

Pharmacy Eligibility and Selection

- Pharmacies currently enrolled in the 2020/2021 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) are eligible to be considered for COVID-19 vaccine administration. Pharmacies do not require any additional inspections by local Public Health Units. **No new UIIP enrollment will be undertaken at this time.**
- Pharmacies must have the capacity and ability to accept and administer vaccine supply quickly and effectively. Pharmacies must commit to administering, at minimum, an average of 40 injections per day.
- UIIP (2020/2021 season) pharmacies will be selected for the pharmacy COVID-19 Vaccine rollout as follows:
 - Identification of Public Health Units (PHUs): Priority will be given to PHUs that have high rates of COVID-19 infection according to the PHU colour/ zone designation under the provincial framework.
 - Identification of Priority Areas within PHUs: The ministry will work in collaboration with local PHUs to identify priority areas within those PHUs where pharmacies should be located.
 - Individual Store Selection: Regional population distribution, pharmacy patient base and performance in the UIIP will be considered in the determining the number of stores within a PHU and the stores identified within the region. The ministry, working with the Ontario Pharmacists Association (OPA) and Neighborhood Pharmacy Association of Canada (NPAC), will determine

prospective pharmacies within the priority areas identified in step 2 to participate in the pharmacy COVID-19 vaccination program.

- Independent and banner/chain pharmacies will be given consideration.
- Due to fluctuations in vaccine supply, participation cannot be guaranteed to all eligible stores.

Final site selection will be determined by the ministry. Pharmacies will be contacted by the ministry through ONEMail to confirm participation.

- Pharmacies are encouraged to also stay in touch with the OPA and NPAC to receive information about the COVID-19 Vaccination program.
- Pharmacies are **not required** to contact the ministry

For questions related to COVID-19 vaccine rollout in pharmacy:

Please email the ministry at: OPDPInfoBox@ontario.ca

ResourcesPatient Eligibility and Vaccine Allocation Information:

- [Ethical Framework for COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution](#)
- [Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Availability and Rollout](#)

Clinical Education Materials:

For the most up-to-date information, please see: [COVID-19 Vaccine-Relevant Information and Planning Resources](#)

General Information

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Approval Process and Safety](#)
- [About COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet](#)
- [Guidance for health care providers administering the AstraZeneca or COVISHIELD vaccine](#)

Pre and Post Vaccine Patient Information

- [What you need to know about your COVID-19 vaccine appointment](#)
- [Guidance for COVID-19 vaccination in populations with specific medical conditions, pregnancy and allergies](#)
- [What you need to know before your COVID-19 vaccine appointment](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine After Care Sheet](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination: Allergy Form](#)
- [Adverse Events Following Immunization](#)

Consent Forms

- [COVID-19 Vaccine – Pre-Screening Assessment Tool for Health Care Providers](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Consent Form](#)

Vaccine Storage and Handling:

- [Vaccine Storage & Handling Guidelines](#)