

## Professional Notice

**To:** Pharmacy Practitioners  
**From:** Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists  
**Date:** March 15, 2021  
**Re:** Registrar's Advisory on COVID-19 Immunization; Nurses as Immunizers in Pharmacies

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### Registrar's Advisory: Community Pharmacy Involvement in COVID-19 Immunization

The NSCP has developed the [Registrar's Advisory: Community Pharmacy Involvement in COVID-19 Immunization](#) to support community pharmacies' involvement in the COVID-19 immunization rollout.

The COVID-19 immunization campaign is by far the largest and most aggressive ever undertaken worldwide. It is critical to the public's health and safety that community pharmacy's involvement in the COVID-19 immunization is successful.

While pharmacies and pharmacy managers have confidently operated many influenza vaccine clinics, there are unique issues specific to this significant immunization campaign that warrant special consideration. A pharmacy will need to adapt its standard approach for influenza immunization services to address these issues.

In addition to the Registrar's Advisory, pharmacy practitioners are encouraged to review the following resources:

- The Nova Scotia Department Health and Wellness (DHW) has developed a Q&A document [Nova Scotia COVID-19 Vaccine Program: Information for Health Care Professionals](#). This evergreen document is a **critical resource for pharmacy managers and pharmacy practitioners**.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has developed a webinar on planning COVID-19 immunization clinics [COVID-19 Vaccines - Planning for Immunization Clinics](#).

### Joint Statement on Nurses Administering COVID-19 Vaccines in Community Pharmacies

It is anticipated that pharmacies will be managing large volumes of COVID-19 immunizations from April to October 2021, after which the annual influenza immunization campaign will launch. It is important that pharmacies establish a staffing plan that ensures that the quality and safety of the care provided by the pharmacy is not compromised.

To support pharmacies in meeting staffing requirements for immunization clinics, the NSCP and the Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN) have established a [Joint Statement on Nurses Administering COVID-19 Vaccines in Community Pharmacies](#) to enable nurses to be immunizers in pharmacies. The joint statement outlines the responsibilities of the pharmacy manager, pharmacy practitioners and nurse when a nurse is employed to provide vaccine administration.