

## Professional Notice

**To:** Pharmacy Practitioners  
**From:** Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists  
**Date:** August 2, 2022  
**Re:** Administration of COVID and Flu Vaccines for Children Under 2 Years of Age

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The NSCP enabled pharmacy practitioners with a valid injection permit or technical permit, and who have attained the necessary competencies, to administer SARS-CoV-2 and influenza vaccines to children 6 months-2 years of age in April 2022.

A [Professional Notice](#) outlining this new authority was sent to all pharmacy practitioners at that time and provides answers to frequently asked questions. Of note:

- A section titled *Drug Administration by Injection in Young Children* has been added to [Appendix B of the Standards](#) that describes the additional knowledge requirements, beyond the technical skills requirements, that are necessary to appropriately provide drug administration in young children.
- While it may be appropriate in some instances to administer an injection into the deltoid muscle for individuals in this age group, for others, injection into a different muscle will be necessary (e.g., ventrogluteal). Prior to administering IM injections into sites other than the deltoid, pharmacy practitioners must:
  - have received additional training;
  - be satisfied they have the competency to administer the medication to the alternative site; and
  - have demonstrated their competency to do so.
- For clarity, appropriate training includes an opportunity for the pharmacy practitioner to have landmarked and administered the medication into the site under the guidance of an individual who assesses and confirms their competency. For those who require this training, the Dalhousie CPE program is a valuable resource; however, training and demonstration of competence can be achieved in other ways.

Should you have additional questions, please reach out to Anique Comeau, Pharmacy Practice Assistant Manager, at [acomeau@nspharmacists.ca](mailto:acomeau@nspharmacists.ca) or (902) 422-8528 x 248.