

## **Vaccine Provision Update:**

[The Disease Control \(COVID-19\) Amendment Regulations, 2021](#) came into force on February 24, 2021, which enables the establishment of the [Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan](#) for the province. The plan lays out the framework for delivering the vaccines across the province including the training required, who can administer COVID-19 vaccines, and the clinic settings that will provide vaccines.

A list (see pages 2 and 3) of potential COVID vaccination immunizers is included as part of the Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan. The list includes professions such as physicians, registered nurses, and pharmacists, which traditionally provide vaccinations as part of their scope of practice. However, the list also includes other auxiliary immunizers such as health care students, retired health care professionals, and health care professionals that traditionally would not administer vaccinations (e.g. dentists, dietitians).

The Ministry of Health worked closely with all of the Health Regulators (including SDA) to ensure that the practitioners included on the approved immunizers list were appropriately selected and that sufficient training was developed to ensure competency of those who are non-traditional immunizers. Employers (e.g., Saskatchewan Health Authority [SHA], Indigenous Services Canada [ISC], community pharmacies) must ensure that COVID vaccine immunizers are competent to administer the vaccination and it must be safe and appropriate for each immunizer to do so. Training will be made available to all immunizers who want to participate in the COVID-19 vaccination program.

The list included in the plan identifies possible immunizers. Not all professionals on the list will necessarily be called upon to fulfill this role; and only those have the appropriate knowledge and training will actually deliver immunizations. All immunizations will be delivered in an environment where experienced immunizers are present; should immunizations be required to be provided by professionals considered on the auxiliary list (dietitians) this will be done within a collaborative team environment that includes a member of a regulated health profession who is already authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccinations (from the primary list).

More information about how to apply to work as an immunizer for the Saskatchewan Health Authority available [here](#) or Indigenous Services Canada [here](#).

### **Professional Liability Coverage**

The amendments include a provision that extends the liability provision contained in The Public Health Act, 1994 to those administering vaccinations under Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan. This immunity clause would cover anyone who participates as an immunizer in the vaccination program and acts in good faith while carrying out their duties.

As with all professional practice activities, it is the responsibility of the practitioner to determine their own competency and comfort level with any task requested of them. If you do not feel competent or safe to perform a task, it is your responsibility to indicate this to your employer. Please reference the [Joint Statement on Professional Accountability](#) for further information regarding working within your competency when being asked to perform pandemic related roles.

**Appendix A**

**HR COVID Vaccination Providers Schedule**

**Part A: COVID vaccination providers**

The following are authorized as COVID vaccination providers for the purposes of the Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan (Plan) subject to the attached terms and conditions in Part B:

<b>Licensed Professionals that Already Provide Vaccinations</b>
Physicians
Nurse Practitioners
Registered Nurses
Registered Psychiatric Nurses
Licensed Practical Nurses
Pharmacists
Paramedics
Midwives
Respiratory Therapists
<b>Health Care Students</b>
Medicine
Registered Nursing
Registered Psychiatric Nursing
Pharmacy
Paramedic
<b>International Medical Graduates (IMGs)</b>
International Medical Graduates
<b>Formerly Licensed Health Professionals</b>
Physicians
Nurse Practitioners
Registered Nurses
Registered Psychiatric Nurses
Licensed Practical Nurses
Pharmacists
Paramedics
Midwives
Respiratory Therapists
<b>Auxiliary Vaccination Provider Category</b>
Dentists
Dental Therapists
Dental Hygienists
Dental Assistants
Optometrists
Medical Radiation Technologists
Medical Laboratory Technologists

Podiatrists
Audiologists
Dietitians
Occupational Therapists
Physical Therapists/Physiotherapists
Pharmacy Technicians
Speech-Language Pathologists
Veterinarians
Veterinary Technologists
Any other class of persons approved by the Ministry of Health that meet the criteria set out in Part B

**Part B: Conditions to the administration of vaccinations**

To perform vaccinations under this Plan, each of the following conditions must be met:

1. The administration of COVID-19 vaccinations are performed pursuant to the establishment of a province-wide program to coordinate and administer COVID-19 vaccines, which includes delivery of vaccinations through the following:
  - the Saskatchewan Health Authority or an affiliate as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
  - Indigenous Services Canada (ISC);
  - Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA);
  - a First Nation Health Agency recognized by ISC or NITHA;
  - Athabasca Health Authority;
  - corporate immunizers approved by the Ministry of Health;
  - physicians;
  - pharmacies; and
  - individuals or organizations approved by the Ministry of Health.
2. COVID vaccination providers must be competent to administer the vaccination and it must be safe and appropriate for the person to do so.
3. In the case of an agent or employee engaged by one of the organizations listed in (1) above, the employer must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the COVID vaccination provider is competent to administer the vaccination and it is safe and appropriate for the employee to do so
4. The act of administering a vaccination must be performed only for the purpose of the Plan or for training purposes.
5. The administration of a COVID-19 vaccination must be performed by a member of a regulated health profession who is already authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccinations or by one of the other individuals listed in Part A above within a collaborative team environment that includes a member of a regulated health profession who is already authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccinations.

## **Part C: Definitions**

**“Formerly licensed health care workers”** For the purpose, of the COVID Immunization Plan, a person is a formerly licensed health care worker only if:

(a) they held a valid certificate of practice issued by a professional regulatory body based in Saskatchewan; and

(b) they were registered with a regulated health profession in Saskatchewan and their registration was in good standing immediately before ceasing to hold the certificate or ceasing to be authorized to practice.

**“International Medical Graduate”** For the purpose of the COVID Immunization Plan, a person is an international medical graduate if they have completed a medical education program outside of Canada but do not currently meet the eligibility requirements for licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.