

ADMINISTERING COVID-19 & INFLUENZA* VACCINES

The Injection Process: Whose role is it anyway?



The entire process of administering the COVID-19 & influenza vaccines is a collaborative process between the pharmacist and pharmacy technician or pharmacist intern.

1 ASSESSMENT AND EDUCATION

MUST be performed by the **pharmacist** EACH time

- Assess current state of health
- Assess for precautions & contraindications
- Evaluate previous reactions
- Discuss risks and benefits; provide opportunity for questions



2 INFORMED CONSENT

Obtaining informed consent is a multi-step process.

The **pharmacist** MUST ensure the patient understands the information presented & documents the consent.

- Assess that the patient is capable of consenting

May be performed by either a **pharmacist, technician** or **intern**.

- Ensure the patient has read the vaccine fact sheet
- Outline the process of administration & positioning
- Obtain and document consent to perform the injection

3 INFECTION PREVENTION

May be performed by either a **pharmacist, technician** or **intern**.

- Incorporate routine infection control practices
- Ensure aseptic technique



4 VACCINE PREPARATION

May be performed by either a **pharmacist, technician** or **intern**

- Determine the 10 rights have been met
- Select appropriate syringe and needle
- Perform 3 product checks: prior to preparation, during preparation, & prior to administration

5 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

May be performed by either a **pharmacist, technician** or **intern**

- Landmark prior to administering
- Ensure appropriate site, route and technique for administration



6 DOCUMENTATION

May be performed by either a **pharmacist, technician** or **intern**

- Ensure all federal and provincial documentation and record keeping requirements are followed
- Initiate billing & adjudication for payment
- Prepare reports and documents



7 POST-VACCINATION COUNSELLING & OBSERVATION

May be performed by either a **pharmacist, technician** or **intern**

- Ensure the patient is kept under observation for at least 15 to 30 minutes after vaccine administration
- Ensure the patient understands the rationale for remaining under supervision following the administration

Technicians and **interns** MUST immediately consult with the **pharmacist** if an adverse event occurs.

Remember: Pharmacy technicians and pharmacist interns must practice under direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist certified to administer by that same method. Pharmacy technicians have their own malpractice insurance, and will function under their own insurance. Pharmacy interns will function under the pharmacist's malpractice insurance.



*Pharmacy technicians and pharmacist interns may only administer influenza vaccine that is publicly-funded. All immunizers must have valid AMC, AMSC or AMTC.