



ORDER OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICER

(Pursuant to section 13 of the *Health Professions General Regulation*, B.C. Reg 275/2008)

REGULATED AND UNREGULATED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SARS-CoV-2 IMMUNIZATION ORDER – February 23, 2021

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 17, 2020 I provided notice under section 52 (2) of the *Public Health Act* that the transmission of the infectious agent SARS-CoV-2, which has caused cases and outbreaks of a serious illness known as COVID-19 among the population of the Province of British Columbia, constitutes a regional event as defined in section 51 of the *Public Health Act* (the “**Emergency**”);
- B. Immunization against the infection SARS-CoV-2 includes one or more of the activities set out in column B of Appendix A (each an “**Immunization Activity**”);
- C. I am of the opinion that:
 - (i) the operation of a health profession regulation is adversely affecting the timely delivery of the Immunization Activities, the scope of Immunization Activities that can be delivered, and the efficient and effective use of health human resources, throughout British Columbia, and
 - (ii) health professionals set out in column A of Appendix A (each an “**Authorized Health Professional**”) may perform an Immunization Activity, as authorized by this order, without undue risk to the health or safety of the patient or any other person; and
- D. For the purposes of applying this order to a particular Authorized Health Professional:
 - (i) the authorized Immunization Activities are specifically set out in the entry in column B of Appendix A that corresponds to the Authorized Health Professional,
 - (ii) for greater certainty, the authorized Immunization Activities specifically exclude the services (if any) set out in the entry in column C of Appendix A that corresponds to the Authorized Health Professional,
 - (iii) the applicable specific limits (the “**Specific Limits**”) are set out in the entry in column D of Appendix A that corresponds to the Authorized Health Professional,

- (iv) the applicable mandatory training (the “**Mandatory Training**”) is set out in the entry in column E of Appendix A that corresponds to the Authorized Health Professional and the corresponding entries of Appendix B.

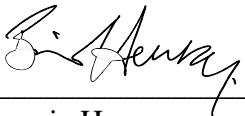
I, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, order that notwithstanding any requirements set out in a health profession regulation that conflict or may conflict with this order, an Authorized Health Professional is authorized to perform an Immunization Activity, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Immunization Activity must be performed in the course of providing a SARS-CoV-2 immunization program approved by a medical health officer with responsibility for the geographic area in which the Immunization Activity is performed.
2. The Immunization Activity must be conducted in accordance with the resources issued by the BC Centre for Disease Control (the “**Resources**”) posted at the following website:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/resources-for-health-professionals>
3. The Authorized Health Professional must complete all Mandatory Training before performing the Immunization Activity.
4. The Authorized Health Professional must comply with the Specific Limits (if any).
5. The Authorized Health Professional’s employer or a medical health officer must first assess the Authorized Health Professional’s competence to perform the Immunization Activity in a manner that is safe for both the patient and the Authorized Health Professional, including by requiring the Authorized Health Professional to demonstrate knowledge and skill, in accordance with the Resources, respecting the Immunization Activity. The Authorized Health Professional’s employer may only make this assessment if the employer is a registrant, or is acting on the advice of a registrant, who has assessed the Authorized Health Professional and who is authorized under a health profession regulation, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.

Unless rescinded earlier, this order will end on the date that I provide notice under section 59 (b) of the *Public Health Act* that the Emergency has passed.

DATE: **February 23, 2021**

SIGNED: 

 Bonnie Henry
 MD, MPH, FRCPC
 Provincial Health Officer

Appendix A: Immunization Activity, Limitations and Mandatory Training

Note: this list does not include health professionals who can normally provide immunization services under their health profession regulations (e.g. Medical Practitioners, Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Psychiatric Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Pharmacists and Naturopathic Physicians)

Column A: Health Professional	Column B: Authorized Immunization Activities:	Column C: Services specifically <u>excluded from the authorized Immunization Activity:</u>	Column D: Specific Limits:	Column E: Mandatory Training (refer to the letters in Appendix B, Column A for information on the training resource)
Dentist, Midwife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent; b. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; c. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; d. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation 			C1, D, F, G, H

Column A: Health Professional	Column B: Authorized Immunization Activities:	Column C: Services specifically excluded from the authorized Immunization Activity:	Column D: Specific Limits:	Column E: Mandatory Training (refer to the letters in Appendix B, Column A for information on the training resource)
	assessment and treatment of adverse events.			
Retired Registered Nurse (not registered with the British Columbia College of Nurses and Midwives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent; b. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; c. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; d. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events. 		Must be supervised by a registrant who is authorized under a health profession regulation, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.	C2, E, F, G, H

Column A: Health Professional	Column B: Authorized Immunization Activities:	Column C: Services specifically <u>excluded from the authorized Immunization Activity:</u>	Column D: Specific Limits:	Column E: Mandatory Training (refer to the letters in Appendix B, Column A for information on the training resource)
Nursing/Midwifery Student (Employed Student Nurse, Employed Student Psychiatric Nurse, Student Midwife, Nursing Program, Psychiatric Nursing Program, Practical Nursing Program, Midwifery program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; b. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; c. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent. 	<p>Nursing students must be supervised by a registered nurse or a registered psychiatric nurse who is authorized under <i>Nurses (Registered) and Nurse Practitioners Regulation</i> or the <i>Nurses (Registered Psychiatric) Regulation</i>, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.</p> <p>Midwifery students must be supervised by a registrant who is authorized under a health profession regulation, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.</p>	C1, D, E, F, G, H

Column A: Health Professional	Column B: Authorized Immunization Activities:	Column C: Services specifically <u>excluded from the authorized Immunization Activity:</u>	Column D: Specific Limits:	Column E: Mandatory Training (refer to the letters in Appendix B, Column A for information on the training resource)
Dental Hygienist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; b. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; c. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent. 	Must be supervised by a registrant who is authorized under a health profession regulation, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.	A, B, C1, D, E, F, G, H
Podiatrist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; b. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; c. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent. 	Must be supervised by a registrant who is authorized under a health profession regulation, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.	C1, D, F, G, H

Column A: Health Professional	Column B: Authorized Immunization Activities:	Column C: Services specifically <u>excluded from the authorized Immunization Activity</u> :	Column D: Specific Limits:	Column E: Mandatory Training (refer to the letters in Appendix B, Column A for information on the training resource)
Anesthesia Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; b. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; c. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent. 	Must be supervised by a physician who is authorized under the <i>Medical Practitioners Regulation</i> , and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.	A, B, C1, D, F, G, H
Medical Laboratory Technologist/ Medical Laboratory Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent; b. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial; 	Must be supervised by a registrant who is authorized under a health profession regulation, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.	A, B, C1, D, F, G, H

Column A: Health Professional	Column B: Authorized Immunization Activities:	Column C: Services specifically <u>excluded from the authorized Immunization Activity:</u>	Column D: Specific Limits:	Column E: Mandatory Training (refer to the letters in Appendix B, Column A for information on the training resource)
		<p>c. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events.</p>		
Pharmacy Technicians	<p>a. Preparation of vaccines, including the drawing of doses from a vial;</p>	<p>a. Initial patient assessment, including review of patient assessment forms to determine suitability of a patient for immunization and obtaining patient consent;</p> <p>b. Administering an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine;</p> <p>c. Post-immunization monitoring of the patient, including monitoring for adverse</p>	<p>Must be supervised by a pharmacist who is authorized under the <i>Pharmacists Regulation</i>, and competent, to perform the Immunization Activity.</p>	<p>C1, D, F</p>

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		events (i.e. anaphylaxis), situation assessment and treatment of adverse events.		

Appendix B: Training Materials

Column A: Training	Column B: Resources	Column C: Link to Materials
A	Elsevier Clinical Skills - Intramuscular Injections (*eliminate pediatric content and test)	Course content equivalent to: https://point-of-care.elsevierperformancemanager.com/
B	In-person education and clinical lab training to perform intramuscular injections as per the BC Centre for Disease Control's – Immunization Skills Checklist	http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines and Forms/Guidelines and Manuals/Immunization/Vaccine Info/IMMUNIZATION_SKILLS_CHECKLIST.pdf
C1	BC Centre for Disease Control's – Immunization Competency Course This course includes the BC Centre for Disease Control's – Informed Consent for Immunization component	http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/education-development/immunization-courses/immunization-competency-course
C2	BC Centre for Disease Control's COVID-19 Immunization Competency Course for Nurses (RNs, RPNs, LPNs)	http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/education-development/immunization-courses/covid-19-immunization-competency-course-for-nurses-(rns-rpns-lpns)
D	BCCDC COVID-19 Immunization Webinars	https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Courses/24764/curriculum-bccdc-covid-19-immunization-webinars
E	BC Centre for Disease Control's – Communicable Disease Control Manual: Anaphylaxis Management in Non-Hospital Setting course	http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%20and%20Forms/Guidelines%20and%20Manuals/Epid/CD

Column A: Training	Column B: Resources	Column C: Link to Materials
	<p>OR</p> <p>Anaphylaxis Initial Emergency Treatment By Nurses Adult Pediatric</p>	<p>%20Manual/Chapter%20%20-%20Imms/Part_3_Anaphylaxis.pdf</p> <p>OR</p> <p>https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Courses/19708/anaphylaxis-initial-emergency-treatment-by-nurses-adult-pediatric</p>
F	Dry Ice Handling Safety Training course	https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Courses/24530/dry-ice-handling-safety-training
G	Vaccine Storage and Handling course	http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/education-development/immunization-courses/vaccine-storage-and-handling-course
H	Immunization Communication Module	https://learninghub.phsa.ca/Courses/19653/immunization-communication-module