

Updated: Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 Vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – Eligibility

Effective May 13th, 2021

Certain eligible pharmacies can administer publicly funded injectable COVID-19 vaccines to eligible Ontarians (see Pharmacy Eligibility below).

The purpose of this Executive Officer (EO) Notice (Administration of the Publicly Funded COVID-19 Vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – **Eligibility**), the EO Notice: Administration of the Publicly Funded COVID-19 Vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – **Billing**, and the accompanying Questions and Answers (Qs & As) documents, are to set out the terms and conditions for a participating pharmacy's submission of claims for payment (claims) for administering injectable COVID-19 vaccines to eligible Ontarians. Each document is a ministry policy that pharmacy operators must comply with under section 3.2 of the Health Network System (HNS) Subscription Agreement for Pharmacy Operators.

The two (2) EO Notices and the accompanying Qs & As documents are **not** intended to describe a pharmacy operator's obligations in respect of administering injectable COVID-19 vaccines under applicable legislation, other agreements with the Province of Ontario, or policies of the OCP. Pharmacy operators with questions about their legal obligations outside of the HNS Subscription Agreement should refer to the applicable legislation, other agreement, or OCP policy as appropriate.

This EO Notice (Administration of the Publicly Funded COVID-19 Vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – **Eligibility**) replaces the previous EO notice on the same topic respecting the administration of publicly funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario pharmacies that was effective May 6, 2021.

Pharmacy eligibility

In order to be eligible to submit claims for administering a publicly funded COVID-19 vaccine, a pharmacy operator (also referred to in this document as a “participating pharmacy”) must be selected to participate by the ministry and meet the following requirements:

- Have a valid HNS Subscription Agreement with the ministry
- Have a valid agreement with the ministry respecting COVID-19 vaccine administration and the use of the Provincial COVID-19 vaccine solution (the “COVID-19 Vaccine Agreement”); and
- Enrolled in the 2020-21 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP).

This eligibility criteria may be updated from time to time. Please refer to the [ministry website](#) for the most recent version of this notice.

Patient eligibility

Patient eligibility is pharmacy-specific and vaccine-specific. Complete the following two-steps to determine patient eligibility.

Step 1:

Determine your pharmacy category using Table 1 below.

To determine whether your pharmacy’s postal code is located in a hot spot, please visit the ministry’s website: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/ontarios-covid-19-vaccination-plan#hot-spot-communities>.

Table 1 – Pharmacy Category

Category	Description
A	Pharmacy is located in a hot spot postal code area and has been selected by the ministry to administer the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine
B	Pharmacy is not located in a hot spot postal code area and has been selected by the ministry to administer the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine
C	All other participating pharmacies

Step 2:

Determine the patient eligibility criteria for your applicable pharmacy category using Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Patient Eligibility Criteria by Pharmacy Category

Pharmacy Category	Patient Eligibility Criteria
A	Pfizer (if applicable) – for patients aged 18 years of age or older at time of vaccination or any time in 2021

	<p>Moderna (if applicable) – for patients aged 18 years of age or older at time of vaccination¹</p> <p>AstraZeneca / COVISHIELD – for patients aged 40 years of age or older at time of vaccination or any time in 2021, but not for first dose administration *</p>
B	<p>Pfizer (if applicable) – for patients aged 40 years of age or older at time of vaccination or any time in 2021</p> <p>Moderna (if applicable) – for patients aged 40 years of age or older at time of vaccination or any time in 2021</p> <p>AstraZeneca / Covishield – for patients aged 40 years of age or older at time of vaccination or any time in 2021, but not for first dose administration *</p>
C	<p>AstraZeneca / Covishield – for patients aged 40 years of age or older at time of vaccination or any time in 2021, but not for first dose administration *</p>

* See Executive Officer Notice dated May 11, 2021 regarding the Ministry of Health’s direction to pause of the administration of first doses of publicly funded AstraZeneca / COVISHIELD COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario pharmacies, available [here](#).

This eligibility criteria may be updated from time to time. Please refer to the [ministry website](#) for the most recent version of this notice and for details of the provincial rollout plan, please visit the [ministry’s website](#).

Prior EO Notices

- Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies, effective March 10, 2021.
- Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – Eligibility, effective March 22, 2021.
- Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – Eligibility, effective April 1, 2021.

¹ Per the Product Monograph, Moderna is only indicated for individuals 18 years of age and over. The safety and efficacy of COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna in individuals under 18 years of age has not yet been established.

- Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – Eligibility, effective April 19, 2021.
- Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – Eligibility, effective April 30, 2021.
- Executive Officer Notice: Administration of Publicly Funded COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies – Eligibility, effective May 6, 2021.
- Executive Officer Notice: Pause of the Administration of First Doses of Publicly Funded AstraZeneca / COVISHIELD COVID-19 Vaccines in Ontario Pharmacies (May 11, 2021)

Additional Information:

For pharmacy billing:

Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

For COVID-19 vaccine rollout in pharmacy:

Please email the ministry at: OPDPInfoBox@ontario.ca

For Ministry COVID-19 Vaccine-Relevant Information and Planning Resources

Please access this [website](#)

For all other Health Care Providers and the Public:

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282.