



Health

Public Health

3rd Floor; 300 Carlton Street Winnipeg MB R3B 3M9

vaccines@gov.mb.ca

July 20, 2023

Mr. Darren Murphy, President and Ms Tanjit Nagra, Chief Executive Officer
Pharmacists Manitoba
PO Box 55044 Dakota Crossing
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2N 0A8

Dear Mr. Murphy and Ms Nagra:

Re: Influenza Vaccination Program – New Rates and Program Enhancements

The participation of pharmacists in Manitoba's publicly funded immunization program has been very successful. At this time, pharmacists certified in advanced methods are able to administer publicly funded vaccines listed in Schedule 2 of the Pharmaceutical Regulation.

We are pleased to advise that effective September 1, 2023, the rate payable to pharmacists for administering the influenza vaccine will increase from \$7 to \$8 for the injection of the vaccine by a pharmacist and that pharmacies will be eligible for payment of a \$5 administrative fee for each influenza immunization provided that they meet the following requirements:

- 1) to ensure that accurate and up to date vaccine coverage information is available, pharmacies will be required to directly enter details of all publicly funded influenza immunizations administered by pharmacists in the client's electronic public health record via the Manitoba Immunization Registry (PHIMS) within TWO (2) business days of administration of the vaccine
- 2) direct entry of COVID-19 vaccines into PHIMS will continue to be a requirement
- 3) direct entry of other vaccines (e.g., Pneumococcal-P-23 vaccine) into DPIN, compensated at the current amount of \$7 per immunization, will continue to be a requirement
- 4) pharmacies that do not have access to PHIMS and wish to participate in the influenza (and COVID-19) immunization program will need to be set up with PHIMS access
- 5) pharmacies that already have PHIMS access will be required to sign an updated Information Sharing Agreement (ISA)
- 6) pharmacy providers must follow the requirements set out in Appendix A to participate in the influenza and COVID-19 immunization program

- 7) pharmacies will be responsible for all administrative costs associated with the administration of the influenza vaccine including the costs of all infection prevention and control requirements (including but not limited to personal protective equipment), information technology requirements necessary to enter information into PHIMS, printing and providing immunization records to clients, all the required supplies for the administration of the vaccine, equipment for storage of the vaccines, staff training, inventory management, interaction with Manitoba and any other requirements necessary to meet the requirements set out in Appendix A
- 8) Pharmacists are required to meet the requirements set out in the *Provincial Immunization Program Standards and Provincial Informed Consent Guidelines* included within the Immunization Program Manual for Immunization Providers
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/manual/index.html>.

Please note that if any doses of influenza vaccines included in the publicly funded immunization program are mistakenly entered into DPIN, **these will no longer be captured into PHIMS** and will not be eligible for payment.

These rates will be in effect until August 31, 2026, at which time they will be reviewed.

Please sign and date this letter of agreement in the space below and return to me by e-mail at your earliest convenience.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to vaccines@gov.mb.ca.

Yours truly,



Louis Barre
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Health
Manitoba Health

Terms and conditions agreed to on behalf of Pharmacists Manitoba this 24th day of July, 2023



Tanjit Nagra
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix A:

REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INFLUENZA AND COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM:

- Patients/clients will be immunized as per Manitoba's Influenza and COVID-19 vaccine eligibility criteria:
 - Influenza: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/flu/index.html>
 - COVID-19 : <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine.html>
- Client immunization history will be reviewed prior to administration of a vaccine via the Provincial Health Information Management System (PHIMS):
 - This will determine whether minimum intervals are being maintained for COVID19 vaccines and/or if influenza vaccines have already been administered in the current influenza season.
- All COVID-19 and Influenza vaccines administered MUST be reported in PHIMS within two (2) business days of administration
- All patient/client immunization records must include (at minimum) the client/patient personal health identification number (PHIN), the location of administration, provider, date of administration, vaccine product, lot number, and any additional regulatory requirements:
 - For clients with no PHIN: Record and submit doses administered to persons without a PHIN via the appropriate inputting information available here: https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/covidvaccine/administration-reporting-formno-phin.pdf
- Designate a refrigerator to store vaccines (NO BAR FRIDGES) that is monitored with an appropriate temperature-monitoring device such as a continuous temperature monitor or minimum/maximum thermometer (Household mercury-styled thermometers are not acceptable) with temperatures being checked and recorded twice daily:
 - For specific guidance on the storage and handling requirements for the COVID-19 vaccines refer to the COVID-19 Vaccines Storage and Handling Quick Reference available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/covidvaccine/storage-handling-chart.pdf
 - Refer to the Cold Chain Protocol for Vaccines and Biologics available at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/coldchain.html> for all cold chain monitoring requirements and how to report cold chain excursions.
- Ensure an anaphylaxis management protocol/plan is in place. Current provincial guidance is as per:
 - The Canadian Immunization Guide Anaphylaxis and other Acute Reactions following Vaccination: Canadian Immunization Guide - Canada.ca available at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthyiving/canadian-immunization-guide-part-2-vaccine-safety/page-4-early-vaccinereactions-including-anaphylaxis.html>; and
 - NACI Recommendations - Post Vaccination Observation Period are available at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/immunization/national-advisorycommittee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-duration-observation-periodpost-influenza-vaccination-during-covid-19-pandemic.html>:
 - Ensure anaphylaxis medication (e.g., epinephrine/Epi-Pen) and anaphylaxis management equipment is on site at all times.
 - All patients/clients must be observed for a minimum of 15 minutes after receiving the vaccine.

- Individuals can be immunized if they have allergies not related to the vaccine, such as allergies to foods, insect stings, or seasonal/environmental allergies. They should talk to their immunizer or health care provider about their allergies before vaccination.
- In accordance with Section 59 of The Public Health Act, health care providers are to report a reportable AEFI within seven days of becoming aware of the AEFI:
 - Report adverse events following immunization (AEFI), as per <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/aefi.html#rrp>
 - A serious AEFI should be reported within one business day, via telephone, followed by the complete written report within 72 hours.