Ontario College of Pharmacists
Putting patients first since 1871

Expanding Scope of Practice – Vaccines

Schedule 3 of *Ontario Regulation 256/24* under the *Pharmacy Act, 1991*

This document outlines recent updates to the scope of practice for pharmacy professionals related to vaccine administration, including new authorized vaccines and training requirements.

As of May 11, 2026, the following vaccines have been added to Schedule 3 and can be administered by pharmacists and interns to patients **5 years of age or older:**

- Diphtheria
- Pertussis
- Tetanus

The administration of tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, pneumococcal, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and herpes zoster (shingles) vaccines by pharmacy professionals will be publicly funded for eligible adults in Ontario. Details will be on Ontario.ca when available, including how to access these publicly funded vaccines. Details also will be shared directly with pharmacies when available.

As of July 1, 2026, pharmacy technicians and intern technicians can administer all Schedule 3 vaccines to patients **5 years of age or older** unless otherwise indicated:

- Bacille Calmette-Guerin (BCG)
- Combined Typhoid and Hepatitis A
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) (can administer to patients **6 months of age or older**)
- Diphtheria
- Haemophilus Influenzae type b (Hib)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis A and B combined
- Herpes Zoster
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- Influenza (can administer to patients **two years of age or older**)
- Japanese Encephalitis
- Meningococcal
- Pertussis
- Pneumococcal
- Rabies
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
- Tetanus
- Typhoid
- Varicella
- Yellow Fever

July 1, 2026, version. *This document replaces all prior versions.*

Injection and CPR & First Aid Training Requirements

Before administering vaccines by injection, you **must:**

- ✔ Complete a College-approved injection training course
- ✔ Register your injection training with the College
- ✔ Complete and maintain valid certification in CPR and First Aid at a level equivalent to St. John Ambulance or Canadian Red Cross Standard First Aid & CPR/AED Level C*

**From July 1, 2026, to March 30, 2027, pharmacy technicians and intern technicians may administer all Schedule 3 vaccines without needing CPR & first aid certification. As of March 31, 2027, pharmacy technicians and intern technicians are required to have CPR & first aid certification if they wish to continue administering injections. View the injection authority table for more details.*

Supervision Requirements

- Pharmacy technicians and intern technicians administering vaccines must be supervised by a pharmacist or other healthcare professional who also has CPR and first aid certification.
- In community pharmacies, pharmacy technicians and intern technicians must only practice under direct supervision of a Part A pharmacist (i.e., pharmacist is physically present), including while administering vaccines, as outlined in the Supervision of Pharmacy Personnel Policy.

Administering Injections Expectations

✔ **Know Your Scope**

- Pharmacy professionals can **only** administer vaccines listed in Schedule 3 of *Ontario Regulation 256/24 under the Pharmacy Act, 1991*. If it's not listed in Schedule 3, pharmacy professionals cannot independently administer the vaccine.

✔ **Complete a Therapeutic Check**

- Before a vaccine is administered, the patient must be assessed by a **pharmacist** to determine the therapeutic appropriateness of the vaccine. A pharmacy technician cannot complete the therapeutic check.

✔ **Understand College Expectations**

- Access, review and understand College expectations. The Administering Injections Practice Topic brings together information about administering injections in one location.

Availability of Services

Providing these services is a choice, not a requirement. Each pharmacy professional practices with professional autonomy. To ensure safe patient care, Designated Managers must assess whether their pharmacy can provide this service while continuing to meet the Standards of Operation for Pharmacies.

Patients should speak to their pharmacy team to find out what healthcare services they offer, how to access those services, and whether they are right for their needs.