



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan
Minister of Health
Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

MINISTER'S ORDER
DESIGNATING ADDITIONAL VACCINE PROVIDERS FOR COVID-19 AND
INFLUENZA VACCINE

WHEREAS sections 37.1 of *The Public Health Act, 1994* (the Act) provide as follows:

37.1(2) The minister may establish vaccination programs to coordinate the delivery of vaccines and the administration of vaccinations on a province-wide basis against communicable diseases.

AND WHEREAS section 37.1(3) of the Act provides as follows:

37.1(3) For the purposes of a program, the minister may appoint those persons as vaccination providers who the minister is satisfied are qualified to administer vaccinations for the program.

AND WHEREAS section 37.1(1) provides as follows:

37.1(1) In this section “**program**” means a vaccination program or plan established pursuant to subsection (2); “**vaccination provider**” means a person or a category of persons appointed to provide vaccinations pursuant to a program or plan.

AND WHEREAS section 37.1(4) of the Act provide as follows:

37.1(4) In accordance with a particular program and subject to any directions provided by the ministry or a local authority, a vaccination provider may provide vaccinations to individuals against a communicable disease at any location in Saskatchewan.

AND WHEREAS section 37.1(5) of the Act provides as follows:

37.1(5) Persons appointed as vaccination providers may carry out any duties and responsibilities assigned to them pursuant to a particular program, on the terms and conditions set out in the program, notwithstanding applicable legislation, including professional bylaws, that otherwise govern those persons.

AND WHEREAS section 37.1(6) of the Act provides as follows:

37.1(6) The minister may cause a program to be made public in any manner the minister considers necessary, including publishing notice of the program on the Government of Saskatchewan’s website.

AND WHEREAS section 37.1(7)

37.1(7) For the purposes of section 68, a person appointed as a vaccination provider who is not otherwise employed by the ministry, a local authority or a municipality is deemed to be an agent of the ministry, local authority or municipality, as the case may be, with respect to that person's carrying out of the duties and responsibilities as required by the particular program.

AND WHEREAS it is desirable and in the public interest that a class of persons be designated to carry out COVID-19 and influenza vaccination provider duties outlined in *The Public Health Act, 1994*. A request was made by the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) – Saskatchewan Region in collaboration with Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA) to support the COVID-19 response to have persons designated to support COVID-19 and influenza vaccine administration.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Paul Merriman, Minister of Health, do hereby:


1. Designate the following classes of persons as being qualified to carry out the duties pursuant to section 37.1 of *The Public Health Act, 1994* while they are acting on behalf of the Saskatchewan Health Authority, Indigenous Services Canada, Saskatchewan Region or Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority and Pharmacies to support the COVID-19 Vaccination Plan and the Annual Influenza Immunization Program response:
 - a. As COVID-19 and influenza vaccination providers:
 - i. Individuals employed by or funded by Saskatchewan Health Authority, Indigenous Services Canada, Saskatchewan Region or Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority that are outlined in Appendix A.
2. Designate the following classes of persons as being qualified to carry out the duties pursuant to section 37.1 *The Public Health Act, 1994* while they are acting in their professional capacity as set by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals to support the COVID-19 and Annual Influenza Vaccination programs:
 - a. As COVID-19 and influenza vaccination providers:
 - i. Individuals registered and licensed with the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) and meeting the required conditions outlined in Part B of Appendix A.

The conditions to the administration of vaccinations are set out in Part B of **Appendix A**.

This Order remains in effect until March 31, 2023.

DATED at Regina, Saskatchewan this 4 day of April, 2022.

Order # 2022-04


Paul Merriman
Minister of Health

Appendix A

HR COVID-19 Vaccination Providers Schedule

Part A: COVID-19 and Influenza vaccination providers

The following are authorized as COVID-19 vaccination providers for the purposes of the Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan (Plan) and the Saskatchewan Influenza Immunization Program (Program) subject to the attached terms and conditions in Part B:

Health Care Students
Medicine
Registered Nursing
Registered Psychiatric Nursing
Pharmacy
Paramedic
International Medical Graduates (IMGs)
International Medical Graduates
Formerly Licensed Health Professionals
Physicians
Nurse Practitioners
Registered Nurses
Registered Psychiatric Nurses
Licensed Practical Nurses
Pharmacists
Paramedics
Midwives
Respiratory Therapists
Auxiliary Vaccination Provider Category
Dental Therapists
Dental Hygienists
Dental Assistants
Dietitians
Pharmacy Technicians

Part B: Conditions to the administration of vaccinations

To perform vaccinations under this Plan and Program, each of the following conditions must be met:

1. The administration of COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations are performed pursuant to the establishment of a province-wide program to coordinate and administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccines, which includes delivery of vaccinations through the following:
 - the Saskatchewan Health Authority or an affiliate as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - Indigenous Services Canada (ISC);
 - Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA);
 - a First Nation Health Agency recognized by ISC or NITHA;
 - Athabasca Health Authority;
 - physicians; and,
 - pharmacies.

2. COVID-19 and influenza vaccination providers must be competent to administer the vaccination and it must be safe and appropriate for the person to do so.
3. In the case of an agent or employee engaged by one of the organizations listed in (1) above, the organizations must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the COVID and influenza vaccination provider is trained according to agency and/or regulatory college requirements and is competent to administer the vaccination and it is safe and appropriate for the agent or employee to do so.
4. The act of administering a vaccination must be performed only for the purpose of the Plan or Program.
5. The administration of a COVID-19 or influenza vaccination must be performed by a member of a regulated health profession who is already authorized to administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations or by one of the other individuals listed in Part A above within a collaborative team environment that includes a member of a regulated health profession who is already authorized to administer COVID-19 and/or influenza vaccinations.

Part C: Definitions

“Formerly licensed health care workers” For the purpose, of the COVID Immunization Plan and Saskatchewan Influenza Immunization Program, a person is a formerly licensed health care worker only if:

- (a) they held a valid certificate of practice issued by a professional regulatory body based in Saskatchewan; and
- (b) they were registered with a regulated health profession in Saskatchewan and their registration was in good standing immediately before ceasing to hold the certificate or ceasing to be authorized to practice.

“International Medical Graduate” For the purpose of the COVID Immunization Plan and Saskatchewan Influenza Immunization Program, a person is an international medical graduate if they have completed a medical education program outside of Canada but do not currently meet the eligibility requirements for licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

FACT SHEET

Type of Request: Minister's Order **Date:** March 31, 2022

Title of Request: Minister's Order - Designation of Immunizers under *The Public Health Act, 1994*.

Minister: Honourable Paul Merriman

Ministry: Health

Gazetting: No

Contact Person: Nicole White (on Program): 787-7128
Lesley Hooker (on Order): 787-8309

Time Frame: As soon as possible

Purpose, Summary and Background:

- a) Purpose:** Since March 2021, through an amendment in *The Disease Control Regulations*, additional immunizers have been utilized to complete the COVID-19 and Influenza vaccination campaigns including dieticians, nursing, medical and pharmacy students, among others. The intention of the order is to enable an efficient use of licensed Health Care Workers while engaging additional immunizers to support the COVID-19 Vaccination Plan and the Annual Influenza Program. The authority through Regulation will be repealed on March 31, 2022. In order to ensure ongoing access to additional immunizers, a Minister's Order is needed under authority provided in *The Public Health Act, 1994*.
- b) Summary:** A Minister's Order has been drafted for approval and signature to designate classes of persons, not already authorized to deliver vaccinations through other legislation, to meet the demand of COVID-19 and influenza immunization campaigns now and in the future. This Order will remain in effect until March 31, 2023.
- c) Background:**
- Under the authority of section 37.1 of *The Public Health Act, 1994*, "the minister may appoint those persons as vaccination providers who the minister is satisfied are qualified to administer vaccinations for the program".
 - Order in Council 535/2021, dated November 3, 2021, determined the March 31, 2022 repeal date for section 25.3 (Emergency Vaccination Program) of *The Disease Control Regulations*.

- Section 25.3 states: “The Saskatchewan COVID-19 Immunization Delivery Plan is established to coordinate and provide a province-wide program to administer COVID-19 vaccines. For the purposes of these regulations, the minister may appoint those persons who the minister is satisfied are qualified to administer vaccinations as COVID vaccination providers”.
- Section 37.1 now provides the necessary authority for the Minister to designate classes of persons (in addition to health care workers already authorized) to administer immunizations in accordance with an established immunization program or plan.
- The Minister’s Order includes a list of those classes of vaccination providers authorized to carry out COVID-19 and Influenza vaccination. It also includes conditions that must be met to perform these vaccinations.

Authority: Section 37.1 of *The Public Health Act, 1994*.

Alternatives: None.

**Implications:
(political,
intergovernmental, or
interdepartmental)**

- Once signed, the Minister’s Order will be shared with the designated classes of health care workers identified in Appendix A and copied to the Saskatchewan Health Authority, Athabasca Health Authority, Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority and Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) for information.
- Going forward, review of the immunizer designation will be conducted annually as part of the COVID-19 Vaccination Plan and the Annual Influenza Program evaluation.