

September 1, 2022

## Pharmacists Authorized to Administer COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccines to Children Two Years of Age and Older

Please be advised that effective immediately, pharmacists that are certified to administer immunizations are now authorized to administer COVID-19 and seasonal influenza (flu) vaccines to individuals two (2) years of age and older.

At this time, the expansion to administer vaccines down to age two (2) is only for Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccines and flu vaccines that are part of Manitoba's annual Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program. For all other vaccines, the age of administration remains at age seven (7) years and older.

At this time the Moderna/Spikevax infant pediatric COVID-19 vaccine (25mcg) is the only infant vaccine that has been approved by Health Canada and available in Manitoba for use in children aged 6 months to 4 years of age. Additional products may be approved by Health Canada in the coming weeks.

The administration of these publicly-funded vaccines is as per the policies, protocols and guidelines of the Manitoba Immunization Program; please refer to the Immunization Program Manual (<u>www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/manual/index.html</u>) for these resources. *Note: documentation within the Immunization Program Manual will be updated in the future to reflect this updated policy.* 

Questions about the above provincial policy change can be emailed to <u>Vaccines@gov.mb.ca</u>. Please contact the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba should you have any questions related to competency, training or other administration-related queries. The College strongly encourages injection-certified pharmacists to review the following resource list to support the administration of injections to young children:<u>https://cphm.ca/resource/administration-of-</u> <u>injections-to-young-children-ages-2-5-resource-list/</u>. Thank you for your continued partnership in administering COVID-19 and flu vaccines to Manitobans.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility/clinic.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by"

Richard Baydack, PhD Director, CDC Communicable Disease Control