

Tips to Make Flu Season Easier on your Pharmacy

September 2021



KNOW THE REQUIREMENTS

To administer the flu vaccine to patients two years or older, pharmacists, pharmacy students and interns must:

- Be in a pharmacy participating in Ontario's Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP),
- Have completed a **College-approved injection training course** and **registered their training with the College**, and
- Hold a valid certification in the required level of **CPR and First Aid**.

PREPARE YOUR PHARMACY

- Prepare your premises to accommodate an influx of patients getting immunizations while maintaining physical distancing.
- Determine required areas for service delivery and plan space allocations.
- Consider additional **infection prevention and control measures** needed, including increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

PREPARE YOUR STAFF

- Where possible, designate staff to specific tasks for the duration of their shift.
- Consider which tasks can be performed by a pharmacy student, intern, technician or assistant under supervision.
- Ensure staff members are trained on your pharmacy's immunization protocols, injection-related policies, appropriate PPE use, hand hygiene, and infection prevention and control procedures.

COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Use your communication channels to make it clear what vaccines you are administering at the pharmacy – COVID-19 vaccine, flu vaccine, or both.

ESTABLISH WORKFLOW

Establish tasks and those responsible for each phase of the vaccination process, such as:

- Gathering patient information and providing instructions *before the patient arrives at the pharmacy*
- Screening the patient for COVID-19 and answering patient questions *when the patient arrives at the pharmacy*
- Wearing the appropriate PPE and performing hand hygiene *when delivering the immunization*
- Cleaning and disinfecting immunization area, and monitoring patient flow *between and after immunizations*