



College of Pharmacists of Manitoba

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Guidance to Pharmacists: Administration of Injections During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Pharmacists should use their professional judgement and consider the following guidance when deciding on the appropriateness of administering an injection to a patient during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Patients with symptoms and/or exposure criteria consistent with COVID-19 should be directed to immediately self-isolate and contact Health Links – Info Santé (204-788-8200 or toll-free at 1-888-315-9257).
- Patients who do not exhibit symptoms and do not have exposure criteria consistent with COVID-19 should result in further consideration:
 - If the injection is part of a series with a wide or flexible dosing schedule (eg. 6 – 12 months), then safely delay the administration.
 - If the injection is part of a rigid schedule (eg. medroxyprogesterone) and a delay can negatively impact the patient’s health, prioritize the administration as appropriate.

Pharmacists and staff should practice social distancing, even during the initial screening with the patient and initiate the discussion by phone, whenever possible.

Should a pharmacist decide to administer an injection to a patient, a pharmacist must proceed with caution and ensure good hand hygiene and proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

If a pharmacist does not have PPE and the administration is urgent, then a pharmacist must refer the patient to an alternative health care provider who can safely administer the injection with the appropriate safety precautions.

Pharmacists are also encouraged to review the [Administration of Drugs Including Vaccines Practice Direction](#), which outlines the responsibilities of pharmacists when administering a drug, including a vaccine.

Reference:

Newfoundland & Labrador Pharmacy Board: <http://nlpb.ca/covid-19-guidance-for-pharmacy-professionals/>

*College of Pharmacists of Manitoba Mission:
To protect the health and well being of the public by ensuring and
promoting safe, patient-centred and progressive pharmacy practice in collaboration with other health-care providers.*

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