



The Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN) is the regulatory body for licensed practical nurses (LPNs), registered nurses (RNs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) in Nova Scotia. Our mandate is to protect the public by promoting the provision of safe, competent, ethical and compassionate nursing services by our registrants. The term nurse in this document refers to LPNs, RNs and NPs unless otherwise stated.

Immunizations have a significant and positive impact on the health of our population. Widespread vaccination shortens the duration of disease outbreaks, maintains public safety, reduces the burden on the health care system and keeps health care providers safe to care for clients in need.

The Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN) recommends that nurses be vaccinated against COVID-19. While we recognize that this decision is ultimately up to each individual, NSCN encourages nurses to use their knowledge, ethical frameworks and current science-based sources as the foundation for their decision. NSCN also believes there should be no retaliation against those who choose not to take a COVID-19 vaccine.

The knowledge about COVID-19 and related vaccines is continuously evolving. Nurses should scrutinize all sources of information and only disseminate information from peer-reviewed and credible scientific sources.

Additional Resources

- [Public Health Agency of Canada](#)
- [Government of Canada](#)
- [Government of Nova Scotia](#)
- [NACI Recommendations on the Use of COVID-19 Vaccine\(s\)](#)
- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

COVID 19 Vaccine Administration: Key Regulatory Facts

- Administering the COVID-19 vaccine is within the scope of practice of all nurses, as well as other health care providers.
- Nurses with the appropriate knowledge, skill and judgment may administer the COVID-19 vaccine.
- An authorizing mechanism, such as a direct order, policy, practice guideline, care directive or standard operating procedure, is required to enable nurses to administer the vaccine.
- See the NSCN [Immunization Practice Guideline](#) for more information.

If you have any questions, contact an NSCN Practice Consultant at practice@nscn.ca.

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Our practice support tools are developed using current reference material. The source of this material is available upon request.

