



Medical Directive

Authority to Administer Immunizations as per the Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule for Ontario by Nurses Working in First Nations Communities in FNIHB-Ontario Region

Medical Directive: CD-IMM-001 C

Activation Date: January 3, 2018

Review Due by: January 31, 2019

Sponsoring Person(s): Jo Ann Majerovich, MSc MD CCFP MSc FCFP MPH, Regional Medical Officer; Shari Glenn, NP (PHC), Director of Nursing

Delegated Procedure/Order

- The administration of immunizations in accordance with the *Ontario Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule, FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Protocol* (which includes the current *Canadian Immunization Guide* and Regional Policies) and *The College of Nurses of Ontario's Nursing Standards and Guidelines*;
- The management of post-immunization anaphylaxis in accordance with the *Canadian Immunization Guide* and *FNIHB-Ontario Region Basic Management of Post-Immunization Anaphylaxis in Non-Hospital Setting*.

Informed Consent

Registered Nurses (RNs) and Registered Practical Nurses (RPNs) will obtain informed consent as per the *College of Nurses of Ontario: Practice Guidelines on Consent* with additional support from the *FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Protocol*.

Recipient Clients/Patients

Individuals, families or groups living or working in First Nations communities in Ontario, excluding provincially and/or privately funded health care facilities where care is managed and delivered under another physician's supervision. Any immunizations in those facilities would be provided under the authority of the supervising physician and would not be covered by this medical directive.

Authorized Implementers

The medical directive may be implemented by nurses who:

- Are RNs or RPNs working in First Nations communities in Ontario, who are in good standing with the College of Nurses of Ontario, with no suspensions.
- Are working in a Community Health Nursing role.
- Have successfully completed the FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Orientation and Competency Certification, and attended all mandatory immunization education sessions to maintain competency.

All nurses using this directive must be:

- Knowledgeable about the current *FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Protocol* and other related policies/procedures and practice standards.
- Able to apply their knowledge, judgment and skills in safely administering the most current *Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario*.
- Remain up-to-date on changes to the *Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario* as updated by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC).
- Remain up-to-date on changes to the *FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Protocol* including the current *Canadian Immunization Guide* and approved regional policies.
- Knowledgeable and remain up-to-date on *Early Vaccine Reactions Including Anaphylaxis* found in the *Canadian Immunization Guide: Part 2 - Vaccine Safety* and the *FNIHB-Ontario Region Basic Management of Post-Immunization Anaphylaxis in Non-Hospital Setting*.
- Currently certified in CPR.



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Guidelines for Implementing the Procedure/Order

Implementation of this medical directive requires the nurse(s) to:

- Discuss with the recipient or parent/guardian, the benefits and risks of receiving or not receiving the scheduled immunizations, and answer questions in order to obtain informed consent.
- Assess and document allergies/contraindications related to immunization.
- Document the intervention and treatment of any Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) (according to the *FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Protocol*).

Contraindications to the Implementation of this Directive

This medical directive cannot be implemented when a client has a contraindication to a specific vaccine or if the vaccine needs to be administered in a controlled setting, as identified in the *Canadian Immunization Guide*.

Documentation and Communication Guidelines

Documentation and communication must be in compliance with the requirements outlined by the College of Nurses of Ontario current *Nursing Practice Standards on Documentation*: www.cno.org and the *FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Protocol*. For communities that use an electronic medical record (EMR), consent indicated within the EMR will be sufficient.

Quality Assurance and Review Process

- Competencies for safe and effective administration of the *Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario* are provided in the FNIHB-Ontario Region Immunization Orientation and Competency Certification process, outlined in the *FNIHB-Ontario Region Nursing Policy & Practice Manual*.
- Ongoing immunization competency support is provided via ongoing education sessions, access to updated information at [https:// www2.onehealth.ca](https://www2.onehealth.ca), and access to FNIHB Ontario Immunization Support telephone line at 1-866-297-3577 or immunization-fnih-ontario@hc-sc.gc.ca
- Nurses will consult with the Communicable Disease Nurse and/or Practice Consultant as necessary for support, guidance and questions.
- This medical directive will be reviewed every one (1) year or earlier if needed and revised as required.

Approving Physician(s)/Authorizer(s)

JoAnn Majerovich, MSc MD CCFP MSc FCFP MPH, Regional Medical Officer

Signature: 

Date: 07.01.18

Administrative Approvals

Shari Glenn, NP (PHC), Director of Nursing

Signature: 

Date: 07 Feb 2018