

<p>Direction to Seek Further Assistance from Regulated Health Practitioners with COVID-19 Immunization</p>	<p>Directive: D1-2021</p>
	<p>Effective Date: December 14, 2020</p>
	<p>Issuer: Chief Medical Officer of Health</p>

TO: Alberta Health Services and All Medical Officers of Health

Whereas pursuant to section 14(1)(d) of the *Public Health Act (Act)*, I, Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Chief Medical Officer of Health, have the authority to give directions to the regional health authority, medical officers of health and executive officers in the exercise of their powers and the carrying out of their responsibilities under the Act;

Whereas the Lieutenant Governor in Council made Order in Council 354/2020 under section 52.1(1) of the Act on November 24, 2020 declaring a second state of public health emergency in Alberta due to pandemic COVID-19 and the significant likelihood of pandemic influenza;

Whereas section 7 of the *Communicable Diseases Regulation (the Regulation)* authorizes a medical officer of health, in exercising their powers and carrying out their duties under the Act and the Regulation, to use the assistance of community health nurses and executive officers;

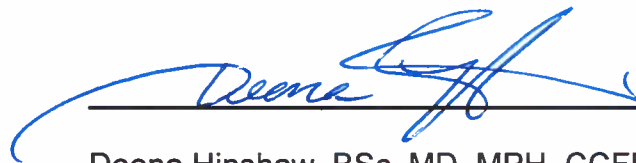
Whereas there is an ongoing need to ensure other qualified persons are available to assist medical officers of health in exercising certain powers and carrying out certain duties under the Act and the Regulation, particularly any powers and duties directly related to COVID-19 immunization;

Therefore, in accordance with section 14(1)(d) of the Act, I hereby give the following directions to Alberta Health Services and all medical officers of health:

1. To employ or engage a sufficient number of regulated health practitioners under the *Health Professions Act*, who are authorized and have the knowledge, skill and competence to administer a vaccine, to assist medical officers of health in exercising their powers and carrying out their duties under the Act and the Regulation with regards to COVID-19 immunization.
2. To ensure that any regulated health practitioners employed or engaged by Alberta Health Services for the purposes of section 1 are trained to administer vaccines in accordance with the relevant provisions of Alberta Health Services' Immunization Program Standards Manual, Alberta Health's Immunization Policy and any other guidance documents issued by Alberta Health Services pertaining to COVID-19 immunizations as well as the *Immunization Regulation* before such individuals are able to assist medical officers of health with the immunization of persons listed in section 1.

3. To remind medical officers of health that they are still responsible for properly exercising their powers and carrying out their duties with regards to carrying out Alberta Health's COVID-19 immunization program despite the assistance of any regulated health practitioners employed or engaged by Alberta Health Services under section 1.
4. To, upon receiving a request from the Chief Medical Officer of Health, provide the Chief Medical Officer of Health, in the form and manner, and within the time specified, any information the Chief Medical Officer of Health may request regarding the implementation of, and any other matter related to, this Directive.
5. This Directive remains in effect until rescinded by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Signed at the City of Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, on this 7 day of January, 2021.



Deena Hinshaw, BSc, MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCPC
Chief Medical Officer of Health
Alberta Health