

Department of Consumer Affairs Waiver effective December 22, 2020 until further notice.

- The DCA waiver allows pharmacy technicians to administer the COVID-19 vaccine or epinephrine as applicable

Eligibility requirements

- The pharmacy technician is certified in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- The pharmacy technician successfully completed **at least six hours of a practical training program** that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and includes hands-on injection technique, the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines, and an assessment of the pharmacy technician's injection technique

FAQs:

What Pharmacy Technicians are Allowed To Do	When to Refer to a Pharmacist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can pharmacy technicians administer any other vaccines besides COVID-19 (e.g., flu)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ No • How do I administer the COVID-19 vaccine? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The COVID-19 vaccine is administered intramuscularly (IM) • If a patient has an allergic reaction from the COVID-19 vaccine, can pharmacy technicians administer epinephrine? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Yes, pharmacy technicians may administer epinephrine by injection • If a patient has a reaction from the COVID-19 vaccine and requires resuscitation, can pharmacy technicians perform CPR? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Yes • Can pharmacy technicians vaccinate children aged 5 and above since the current COVID eligibility is ages 5 and older? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Yes • Can pharmacy technicians vaccinate without a pharmacist present? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ No, the supervising pharmacist must maintain direct supervision of the pharmacy technician • Can pharmacy technicians vaccinate with supervision of another licensed individual that is not a pharmacist? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ No 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a patient asks which manufacturer is best • If a patient asks about adverse reactions or side effects • If a patient asks if they can receive the COVID-19 vaccine and another vaccine simultaneously (e.g, flu, shingles, etc.) • If a patient asks about new COVID-19 variants and how often COVID-19 vaccines/boosters will need to be administered • If a patient asks for a recommendation on any other problems/disease states

REFERENCES:

- *Order Waiving Restrictions on Pharmacy Technicians Relating to Administering COVID-19 Vaccines. State of California Department of Consumer Affairs. Published December 22, 2020. https://www.dca.ca.gov/licensees/dca_20_103.pdf.*
- *Vaccines. California All. Updated November 19, 2021. <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>.*
- *Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently approved or Authorized in the United States. Cdc.gov. Updated November 19, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#overview-covid19-vax-recommendations>.*