

News release

Community physicians will soon administer vaccines

March 16, 2021

Community physicians will soon begin administering the COVID-19 vaccine, helping more Albertans get their dose as soon as possible.

Alberta Health has been working with the Alberta Medical Association (AMA) to incorporate community physicians into the vaccine distribution plan as vaccine supply increases.

This has resulted in more than 500 expressions of interest from Alberta physicians and stand-alone clinics. Combined, 185 physician clinics containing 1,100 physicians will create additional capacity for an estimated 14,000 daily doses, as supply allows. Some physicians are already assisting Alberta Health Services (AHS) with vaccine administration.

The first community physicians are expected to begin administering vaccines in their clinics in April. New temporary billing codes are being added to the schedule of medical benefits to allow physicians to bill for this service. A medical bulletin outlining the details will be issued in the coming days.

Planning is underway for rapid flow clinics involving physicians and other health-care professionals that can be used in the future, if needed. These clinics would be used if Alberta received an unexpected surge in vaccine supply.

To date, over 368, 000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Alberta, with over 91,000 people fully immunized with two doses.

Quick facts

- There are approximately 5,600 family physicians in Alberta
- Alberta Health and the AMA are working collaboratively to help ensure Alberta's vaccine supply is effectively and efficiently utilized and Albertans have access to information to inform their vaccine decisions from trusted sources.

Related information

- COVID-19 info for Albertans
- <u>COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool</u>

Media inquiries

Steve Buick 780-288-1735 Press Secretary, Health Shan Rupnarain AED Public Affairs, AMA

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