

CVCP Compliance Announcement

Dear Pharmacy,

Please read this email about CVCP Compliance Activities for community pharmacies.

Following commencement of the **COVID-19 Vaccination in Community Pharmacy (CVCP) Program**, routine compliance activities are now also underway. Community pharmacies should be aware that the National COVID Vaccine Taskforce will **continuously monitor and report any breaches of rules for the duration of the COVID-19 Vaccination in Community Pharmacy (CVCP) Program.**

Pharmacies found to be in breach of the CVCP rules will be subject to corrective actions, which may include the repayments of claims, suspension from the program, referral of a pharmacist to AHPRA for further action, and referral to law enforcement agencies.

CVCP Focus Areas

The PPA's monitoring and reporting activities will be targeted to ensure:

- Pharmacists administering the COVID-19 vaccine are qualified and trained
- A fee is not charged for COVID-19 vaccinations by pharmacists
- Pharmacies must abide by State and Territory patient age eligibility criteria
- Mandatory Patient Consent is obtained prior to each vaccination, be that written or verbal
- The Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) is updated within 24 hours of vaccine administration
- ATAGI site requirements are in place, including:
 - Space for patients waiting to be vaccinated that observes physical distancing requirements and is sheltered from weather elements
 - A dedicated, clean, well-lit space for the administration of vaccinations, including a desk and chairs for patients, carers/parents and the vaccinator
 - Space for patients to be seated and be observed post-vaccination that observes physical distancing requirements
- A secure facility is maintained for the appropriate storage, including cold storage, of vaccines, in accordance with the approved product information.

Monitoring and Surveillance Methods

The PPA will be monitoring the focus areas through:

- Data analysis and data cross-matching activities
- Desktop reviews and audits of a sample of claims for individual pharmacies
- Investigating tip-offs alleging rule breaches; these are being received from members of the public.

Pharmacies subject to compliance activities will be notified via email by the PPA and will be provided 10 business days to provide a written response, including evidence. Pharmacies facing more serious breach investigations may be required to respond within a shorter time frame, and in some instances may be required to cease vaccinations immediately.

Further Information

If you'd like further information refer to the [Factsheet](#) available on our website. This Factsheet includes information on the compliance enforcement mechanisms available to the PPA and Commonwealth in handling COVID compliance activities.

Kind regards,

Pharmacy Programs Administrator