



October 8, 2009

To: Chief Medical Health Officers  
Directors of Health Protection  
Regional Managers of Licensing

**Re: Immunization in adult residential care facilities**

In 2008, as a result of a Coroner's Judgment of Inquiry, the Community Care Facilities Branch committed to providing greater direction to licensed community facilities with respect to the immunization of adult residents. At this time a Director of Licensing Standards of Practice was developed under the authority of section 4(1) of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, which provides that the Director of Licensing may:

(e) specify policies and standards of practice for all community care facilities or a class of community care facilities...

As a result of the transition from the Adult Care Regulation to the Residential Care Regulation, this Standard of Practice has been updated. The new Standard of Practice will come into effect on October 1, 2009, when the Residential Care Regulation takes effect.

A copy of the revised Standard of Practice is attached. Please share this information with your licensing staff and colleagues and with licensed community care facilities that provide residential care to seniors and those identified as eligible for current provincial immunization programs, and delete or archive the previous version, as your practice requires.

Yours truly,

Sue Bedford  
Director of Licensing

pc: Ms. Leigh Ann Seller, Executive Director, Home and Community Care  
Ministry of Health Services  
Ms. Katie Hill, Director, Home and Community Care, Ministry of Health Services

<b>IMMUNIZATION OF ADULT PERSONS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>1 of 2</b>
	<b>Number:</b>	<b>02/09</b>
	<b>Effective:</b>	<b>December 2007</b>
	<b>Revised:</b>	<b>October 1, 2009</b>

This Standard of Practice is made under the authority of section (4)(1)(e) of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act (CCALA)*, which provides that the Director of Licensing may:

- (e) specify policies and standards of practice for all community care facilities or a class of community care facilities....

---

**Relevant Legislation:**

**CCALA - Standards to be Maintained**

7(1) A licensee must do all of the following:...

- (b) operate the community care facility in a manner that will promote the health, safety and dignity of persons in care....

**Residential Care Regulations – Operations**

49(1) A licensee must require all persons admitted to a community care facility to comply with the Province's immunization and tuberculosis control programs.

---

**Standard of Practice:**

1. Licensees of Community Care Facilities must:
  - a. Review the immunization status of each person in care upon admission, and regularly thereafter.
  - b. Keep clear and up-to-date records of the immunization status of each person in care.
  - c. Provide information to persons in care regarding the benefits of immunization including pneumococccal, annual influenza and tetanus-diphtheria if appropriate.
  - d. Consult with the Medical Health Officer of their health authority with respect to vaccine programs which should be offered to persons in care.

- 
- e. Develop a care plan, to include individual outbreak prevention and control policies, for each resident on admission.
  - f. Develop general facility outbreak prevention and control policies as recommended by the health authority's Medical Health Officer.