

Vaccines At Your Pharmacy

Accessible. Convenient. Trusted. Patient Choice.

Iowa pharmacists can vaccinate across the lifespan

- Iowa statewide protocols authorize pharmacists to order and administer: influenza vaccines for patients 6 months and older; most ACIP routine adult vaccines for patients 18 and older; travel vaccines; and completion (final two doses) of the HPV series for patients 11 and older.
- Pharmacists are trained and obtain continuing education.

Answers to common questions from policymakers

- Vaccination at the pharmacy is voluntary and patient-driven. Pharmacists provide access, not mandates.
- Patient safety comes first. Pharmacists administer FDA-authorized or approved vaccines and follow CDC and ACIP clinical recommendations, screening, and emergency preparedness standards.
- Pharmacies expand access to care—especially in rural communities—while complementing, not replacing, a patient's primary care team.
- Vaccination is documented and reported to immunization information systems and shared with other providers to support continuity of care.

Pharmacy's standard of care and accountability

- Iowa law sets clear standard of care expectations for pharmacy practice. Pharmacists must act in the best interest of patients, use evidence based recommendations, and document care just like other licensed health professionals.
- Vaccinations are administered under statewide protocols with screening, informed consent, and post-vaccination monitoring.
- Pharmacists are accountable to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy, follow CDC best practices, and report adverse events through established systems.

What the evidence shows:

- Pharmacy vaccination programs increase immunization uptake, including among people who would not otherwise be vaccinated or who missed vaccination the prior year.
- Meta-analyses and systematic reviews show pharmacist involvement is associated with higher influenza, pneumococcal, and shingles vaccination rates.
- Influenza vaccination reduces the risk of medically attended influenza. Annual vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months and older.

Ask your pharmacist today:

- Which vaccines am I due for based on age, health conditions, and travel plans?
- Can I get my flu shot and other recommended vaccines at the same visit?
- How can my vaccinations be shared with my doctor's office?

IOWA PHARMACY ASSOCIATION

Learn More: Contact IPA@iarx.org or 515-270-0713.

1. https://dial.iowa.gov/media/7017/download?inline=
2. https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/155A.46.pdf
3. https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/2025/155A.2B.pdf
4. https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-best-practices/index.html
5. https://aphanet.pharmacist.com/sites/default/files/files/Guidelines_for_Pharmacy_Based_IMZ_Advocacy_Approved_Jan_26_2019.pdf
6. https://naspa.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Guiding-Principles.Final_For-Publication_10152025.pdf
7. https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/vaccines
8. https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC5215426
9. https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9448680
10. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1551741125003778
11. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/74/wr/mm7406a2.htm