

ANBLPN Position Statement: COVID-19 Immunization

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) are integral members of the health care system. As nursing professionals, the public respects, and trusts LPNs. As such, the actions and statements of LPNs have the potential to influence and impact the safety of the public.

In the fall of 2021, the Government of New Brunswick mandated that all public employees must be vaccinated against COVID-19 or be placed on unpaid leave. This mandate included LPNs working within the hospital sector, Extra Mural, and long-term care. For those LPNs working in the private sector, ANBLPN strongly recommends that they follow the recommendations made by Public Health regarding vaccinations, COVID-19 testing, and respecting a client's right to informed consent.

If you have made a personal choice not to become vaccinated against COVID-19, as a healthcare professional you are expected to respect your client's right to safe, competent, compassionate, and ethical care. If a client seeks your advice or opinion related to COVID-19 vaccinations, you must continue to adhere to your <u>Standards of Practice</u> which state that you will; provide advice that is evidence-informed, and; that your nursing practice is evidence-informed and supports the concepts of health promotion and illness prevention.

The Association of New Brunswick Licensed Practical Nurses (ANBLPN) is committed to following the direction and guidance given by Public Health and as such, we highly encourage all LPNs to become vaccinated against COVID-19, unless medically exempt. By becoming vaccinated, LPNs not only protect themselves, but others around them as well.

The Association of New Brunswick Licensed Practical Nurses is the regulatory authority for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) in New Brunswick. Our mandate is protection of the public by promoting the provision of safe, competent, ethical, and compassionate care by its registrants. When you become vaccinated against COVID-19, you are demonstrating safe, and ethical care to the public.