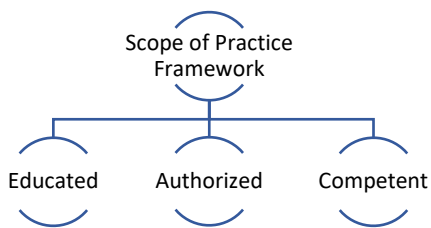




FACT SHEET Immunizations

Administration of immunizations is currently a core competency in the practical nursing educational program, meaning that LPNs who graduate at this time have had education related to immunizations included in their program. Administration of immunizations is within the scope of practice for the practical nursing profession in Newfoundland and Labrador, as outlined in the CLPNNL Competency Profile. **However**, each LPN must reflect on whether the competencies related to immunizations are within their individual scope of practice.



To determine whether the competencies related to immunizations are within an individual LPN's scope of practice, the LPN must reflect upon whether they are:

1. **Educated**
2. **Authorized**
3. **Competent**

1. Educated

The LPN must acquire the education (including both theory and clinical practice) related to immunizations, either as a part of their entry-to-practice education, or as continuing education¹. The education must also support the LPN's ability to manage the outcomes of care, especially should an adverse reaction occur.

2. Authorized

The LPN must be permitted to carry out the competencies related to immunizations. The CLPNNL has authorized this practice for appropriately educated and competent LPNs, however, LPNs must validate that they are authorized by their employer to carry out these competencies, often articulated in employer policies. Authorization must also extend to the ability to manage the outcomes of care; especially should an adverse reaction occur.

3. Competent

The LPN must reflect on the currency of their knowledge and skill, to validate they have the most current information and best practices related to immunizations.

¹ LPNs can obtain education from a variety of sources, including educational institutions. Employers may provide or identify education they require prior to allowing an LPN employee to perform these competencies. Additionally, the [Canadian Immunization Guide](#) containing key information related to immunizations is available on-line from the Public Health Agency of Canada, and a [Self-Directed Learning Module on Immunizations](#) is available on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Health and Community Services website.