



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
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## **COVID-19 and Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme Update**

Dear Pharmacist,

Thank you for your participation in the autumn / winter COVID-19 and seasonal influenza campaign. The seasonal influenza campaign will continue as usual until the end of April. However, the COVID-19 autumn winter booster programme will end this week on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024. COVID-19 vaccinations will pause for the majority of people, with the exception of the cohorts detailed below.

Pharmacies are requested to maintain some vaccine stock to continue to provide COVID-19 vaccines to those who are eligible for vaccination outside of the seasonal booster campaigns. These include:

- Those aged 12 years and over who require primary course vaccination
- Those who are pregnant and require a booster dose

Please refer to NIO guidance for the latest clinical information and eligibility:  
<https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/covid19vaccineinfo4hps/>

For any clinical queries please contact [immunisation@hse.ie](mailto:immunisation@hse.ie).

If an eligible patient comes forward and you are not in a position to provide the vaccination, you can direct them to HSE Live Freephone 1800 700 700, for support in accessing a provider in their area.

From 18th February 2024, COVID-19 vaccination certificates will no longer be issued. Guidance will be available to those requiring a record of vaccination, via the [HSE website](http://www.hse.ie) or HSElive on 1800 700 700.

### **Autumn / Winter Programme delivery in Primary Care**

Over 1,000 Pharmacies have participated in the 2023/2024 autumn / winter campaign.

As of 11<sup>th</sup> February, a total of 1,164,315 flu vaccines have been recorded on COVAX. Of these, 323,413 (27.8%) were administered by Community Pharmacies.

Of the 766,022 COVID-19 booster doses administered in the current campaign, 267,881 (35%) were administered by Community Pharmacies. In total, since COVID-19 vaccination began in 2021, Pharmacies have administered a total of 382,195 primary doses and 1,311,777 booster doses.



Further guidance is expected from NIAC shortly in relation to recommended COVID-19 seasonal booster schedules for 2024.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Community Pharmacies and their teams for the efficient manner in which the COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination Programme has been delivered to date and for your ongoing commitment and support in the provision of vaccinations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Crowley', written over a horizontal line.

**Geraldine Crowley**  
**Assistant National Director**  
**Enhanced Community Care Programme &**  
**Primary Care Contract**