



NSBEP Email Update

COVID VACCINATIONS

NSBEP is aware that there can be differences in the degree of exposure to COVID-19 being faced by psychologists. We have written to our contacts in the Department of Health and Wellness (DHW) regarding these types of situations and the impact they can have on the provision of mental health services. The response was that the information would be passed on to those who have input into decision making. So far, psychologists are not being treated any differently than the majority of the other 24 regulated health professions in Nova Scotia. As you are likely aware, the government approach has been to prioritize ages, employment situations and professions which, as groups, are most likely to be at risk.

Individual psychologists are free to seek out vaccination at any time if they qualify because of age or other prioritization identified by the government; they do not need to wait until psychologists and other health professions are invited based on professional demographic.

Here are links to the most recent information that NSBEP has received to date on immunization.

EN: <https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20210302003>

FR: <https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20210302004>

We note that vaccine timelines have been changing. We will pass on further information as we become aware of it.

INFORMATION FROM THE SAFETY BRANCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND ADVANCED EDUCATION

Regulators have been asked to share these Guidelines from the Safety Branch of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education.

The Safety Branch indicates that its intention is to provide you with the most up to date COVID-19 Office Protocols that will help ensure the safety of workers and visitors in your workspaces as well as mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The below Document COVID-19 Protocols for Office Workspaces provides guidance on assessing the hazard presented by the COVID-19 virus in your office environment and describes both required and recommended controls to address that hazard.

Click on the below link to access the document:

<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19-Protocols-for-office-workplaces.pdf>

The Safety Branch notes that it is here to support and guide you through the protocols. If you have any questions or if you would like further information, please contact LAESafetyBranch@novascotia.ca or call 1-800-9-LABOUR (1-800-952-2687).

These Guidelines from the Safety Branch of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education may speak to areas that are not addressed in the NSBEP Guidelines. However, please note that the NSBEP Private Practice Guidelines approved by the Department of Health and the Chief Medical Officer take precedence over these guideline for Private Practice settings, while Public settings may be governed by their own Guidelines.

NSBEP COVID-19 PANDEMIC PRACTICE GUIDELINES

http://nsbep.org/downloads/NSBEP_Returninperson_practice_20200604.pdf

NSBEP COVID-19 GUIDELINES FAQ

http://www.nsbep.org/downloads/COVID19_ReturntoWorkGuidelines_FAQ.pdf

Sincerely,

Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

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