



Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 262 Friday 27 May 2022
By Authority of Victorian Government Printer

Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER UNDER SECTION 22D (PHEO #19)

I, Professor Euan Wallace, Secretary to the Department of Health, pursuant to section 22D of the **Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981** (the Act), make this Public Health Emergency Order (Order) in the belief that it is necessary in order to respond to a serious risk to public health which is the continuing spread of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in Victoria, and the consequent challenges for the health workforce.

The purpose of the Order is to authorise registered paramedics employed by Ambulance Victoria who have successfully completed a program of study approved by the Chief Health Officer to possess and administer the 2022 influenza vaccine to Ambulance Victoria staff members.

The current wave of COVID-19 in Victoria is expected to produce ongoing demand for Ambulance Services over the next six months. The Order will enable Ambulance Victoria staff to minimise the adverse impact on Ambulance Victoria's COVID-19 responses because of influenza-related workforce absences and reduce the risk of influenza being transmitted between Ambulance Victoria staff as well as to the Victorian public.

By this Order, I authorise the paramedics registered under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law to practise in the paramedic profession (other than as a student) who are employed or otherwise engaged by Ambulance Victoria, to possess and administer the Schedule 4 poisons being the 2022 Influenza vaccine presentations and compositions (the influenza vaccine), if:

- (a) the registered Ambulance Victoria paramedic has completed the influenza immuniser program of study approved by the Chief Health Officer;
- (b) the registered Ambulance Victoria paramedic is administering the influenza vaccine to operational staff members of Ambulance Victoria, who are aged between 18 and 64 years and who do not have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 at the time of vaccination;
- (c) the registered Ambulance Victoria paramedic prepares and administers the influenza vaccine in accordance with the Ambulance Victoria 2022 Influenza Vaccination Implementation Plan and associated clinical guidelines;
- (d) the influenza vaccine is obtained by Ambulance Victoria under its health service permit;
- (e) the administration of the influenza vaccine takes place at:
 - i. hospital sites as agreed with local hospital management,
 - ii. Ambulance Victoria branch stations; or
 - iii. Ambulance Victoria business centres.

This Order comes into force on the date gazetted and continues in force until midnight 1 November 2022 unless earlier revoked.

Dated 27 May 2022

PROFESSOR EUAN WALLACE
Secretary to the Department of Health

SPECIAL

ive

The *Victoria Government Gazette* is published by IVE Group Limited with the authority of the Government Printer for the State of Victoria

© State of Victoria 2022

This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act.

Address all enquiries to the Government Printer for the State of Victoria
Level 2, 1 Macarthur Street
Melbourne 3002
Victoria Australia

How To Order



**Retail &
Mail Sales**

Victoria Government Gazette

Ground Floor, Building 8,
658 Church Street,
Richmond 3121

DX 106 Melbourne



Telephone

(03) 8523 4601

email

gazette@ivegroup.com.au

Price Code A