

Having to obtain a prescription to be dispensed a vaccine, to be administered a vaccine at a pharmacy, and/or for coverage by a third-party insurance plan, **makes vaccination less convenient and less accessible for Ontarians.**

(see figure on reverse)

Among Ontarians who received a vaccine review (VaxCheck®) by a pharmacist, an average of 3 vaccines were recommended per patient. Many patients interested in vaccination had to delay it as they awaited a prescription:¹

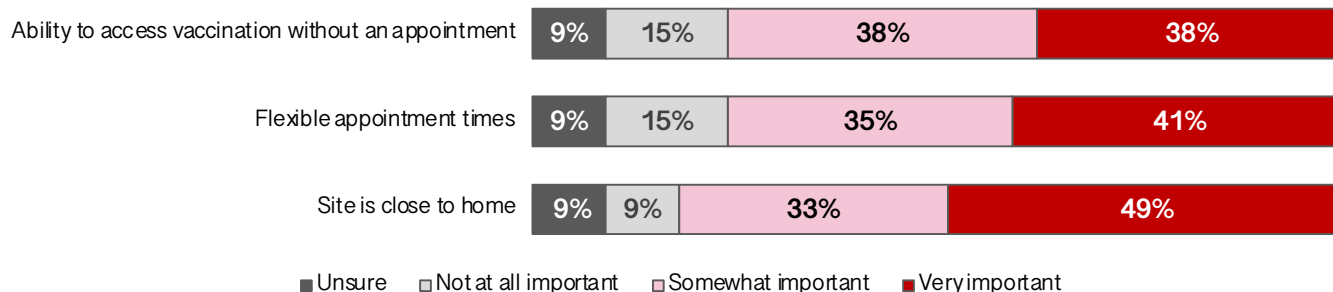


- 67%** of those recommended hepatitis A vaccine
- 56%** of those recommended hepatitis B vaccine
- 23%** of those recommended pneumococcal vaccine
- 16%** of those recommended herpes zoster (shingles) vaccine

2.5 million Ontarians do not have a family doctor to access a vaccine prescription from²

Flexible, community-based, and convenient healthcare settings are valued³

Important factors when choosing a site for routine immunization (n=9,055 Canadian respondents)



Community pharmacies have unmatched accessibility



89% of Ontario's community pharmacies are open on Saturdays and 50% on Sundays⁴



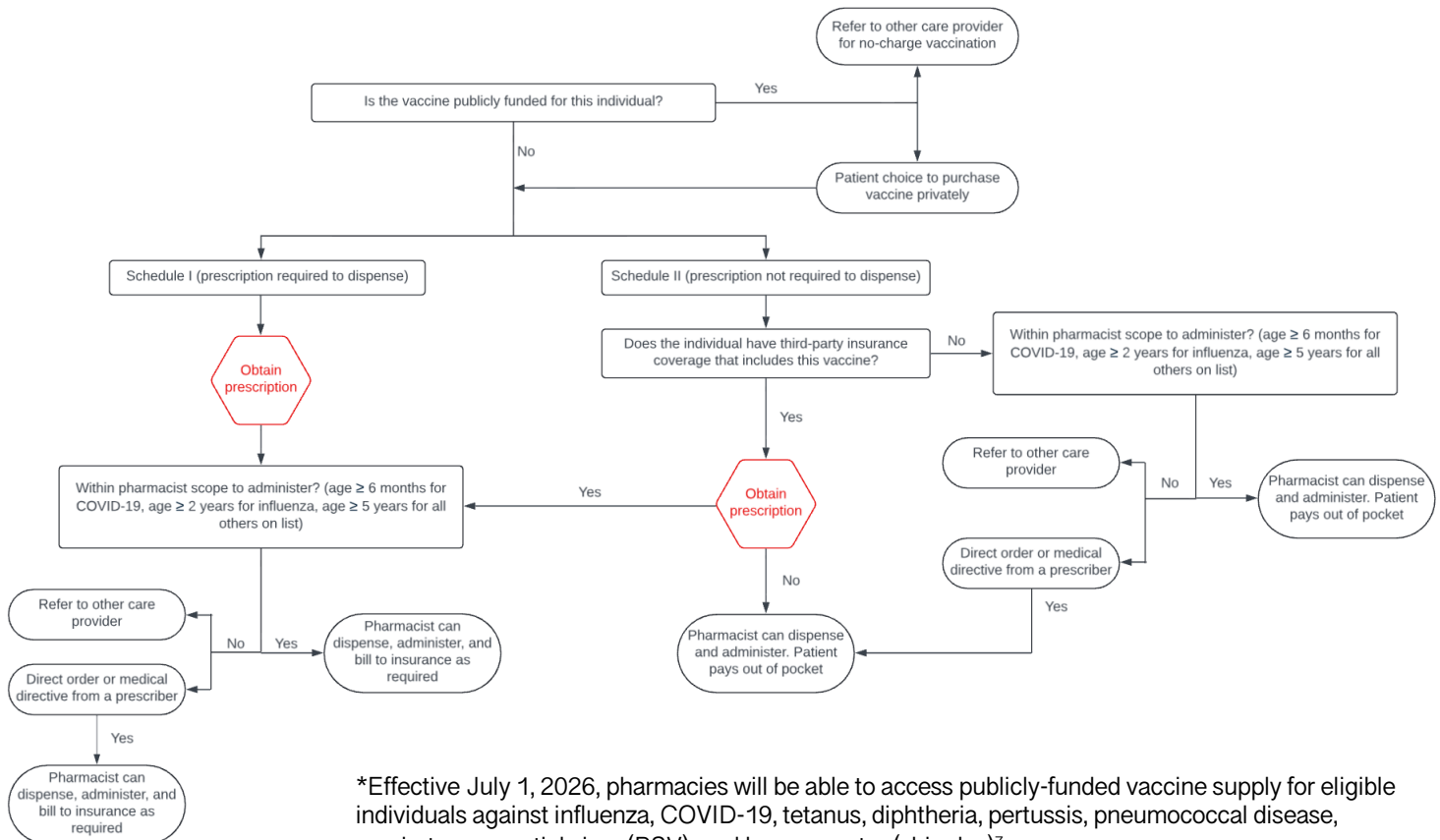
99.4% of urban residents and 41% of rural residents of Ontario live within 5 km of a pharmacy⁵



Of >1.2 million vaccine appointments scheduled at Canadian pharmacies, 27% were on evenings, weekends, or holidays⁶

Authorizing pharmacists to prescribe vaccines can **promote uptake at the point of recommendation, reduce delays and prevent missed vaccination opportunities, and reduce societal impacts from lost productivity** to access other care providers for a prescription.

The patient journey to access vaccinations through pharmacies in Ontario, other than for those eligible for publicly-funded vaccines available to pharmacies *



*Effective July 1, 2026, pharmacies will be able to access publicly-funded vaccine supply for eligible individuals against influenza, COVID-19, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, pneumococcal disease, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and herpes zoster (shingles)⁷

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