

**Date:** August 7, 2024  
**Re:** CFIA Recalls; IPAC for Clinical Office Practice; Pneumococcal Vaccine Program;  
Assessing Alcohol Risk

---

## **CFIA Recalls**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has recently recalled several food and beverage items due to possible contamination. To stay informed, consider subscribing to receive notifications for new and updated recalls and alerts, with complete details on the [CFIA website](#).

Testing questions can be directed to the Public Health Ontario Laboratory (PHOL) Customer Service Centre at 1-877-604-4567 or by email to: [CustomerServiceCentre@oahpp.ca](mailto:CustomerServiceCentre@oahpp.ca).

## **IPAC for Clinical Office Practice – New PHO Resource**

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has announced a new infection prevention and control (IPAC) resource, called [At a Glance: Infection Prevention and Control Organizational Risk Assessment for Clinical Office Practice](#). PHO describes this resource as providing a step-by-step approach for identifying and managing IPAC organizational risks in clinical office practices. Effective organizational risk assessments (ORA) can help improve safety for both patients and staff in clinical office practices. There is an [accompanying form](#) to perform an ORA.

Additionally, earlier this year, PHO released an updated [IPAC Checklist for Clinical Office Practice: Core Elements](#). This resource is designed to help clinical office practices examine, evaluate (e.g., through self-assessment), and benchmark their current IPAC practices against provincial recommendations. Both resources are designed to be used in tandem to effectively manage risks and inform implementation strategies. PHO has indicated questions regarding these resources can be sent to [IPAC@oahpp.ca](mailto:IPAC@oahpp.ca). Additional information is available at PHO's [Clinical Office Practice](#) webpage.

## **Pneumococcal Vaccine Program – Ministry of Health Web Pages**

The Ontario Ministry of Health's publicly funded pneumococcal vaccine program has announced the pneumococcal vaccine program will transition to new pneumococcal vaccines:

- **Pneumococcal 15-valent conjugate (Pneu-C-15) (Vaxneuvance)**
- **Pneumococcal 20-valent conjugate (Pneu-C-20) (Prevnar 20)**

The final program package of information from the Ministry of Health **can now be viewed on the Ontario Ministry of Health webpage:** [Pneumococcal Vaccine Program](#).

**Patient fact sheets** are also available: [Ontario's Routine Immunization Schedule](#).

## **Assessing Alcohol Risk in Light of Expanded Access in Ontario**

By the end of October, alcohol will be more accessible in Ontario as all grocery, convenience, and big-box stores will be able to sell beer, cider, wine, and ready-to-drink alcoholic beverages.

Increased retail access to alcohol may result in increased consumption and health risks.

The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction has updated [Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health](#), which replaces the 2011 Low Risk Alcohol Drinking Guidelines. Health care providers can use this guidance to identify higher-risk alcohol use and to support patients in assessing their risk of harm from alcohol use.

In contrast to the previous version of the guidance, this iteration presents a continuum of risk rather than numerical limits for weekly and daily alcohol consumption. Health care providers can communicate to their patients that even low levels of alcohol consumption can have adverse health effects; less is better when it comes to alcohol use.

LPH's Health Care Professionals Portal [Substance Use](#) section contains resources for health care providers, including the guidance document and resources for screening, brief interventions (including videos), referral, and treatment. More information can also be found on the website [rethinkyourdrinking.ca](http://rethinkyourdrinking.ca).