



## SAPC e-Note: Immunisation and Injection Technique

Dear Pharmacist,

### SAPC Advisory: Immunisation and Injection Technique

Pharmacists who have completed training in immunisation and injection techniques are authorised, under the provisions of Section 22A (15) of the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 101 of 1965, to administer vaccines and certain medications related to vaccination. However, recent discussions have raised the need for additional competencies for pharmacists who wish to administer intravenous (IV) medications, including those that may be required for managing anaphylactic shock following vaccination.

While the current training curriculum for immunisation and injection techniques equips pharmacists to administer vaccines and treat certain immediate reactions (such as anaphylactic shock), it **does not** currently cover the administration of intravenous (IV) line medications, such as adrenaline, or dextrose. To enhance your competencies and to ensure safe and effective patient care, pharmacists who wish to administer IV-line medications must complete additional relevant training.

Pharmacists are encouraged to pursue the following training courses to gain the necessary skills and knowledge:

- (a) **Advanced First Aid Course:** This course provides essential skills in managing emergencies such as anaphylactic shock, including the administration of life-saving medications and treatments, such as adrenaline via IV.
- (b) **Phlebotomy Training:** This course will equip you with the skills required for venipuncture (inserting IV lines) to safely administer IV medications.

Both courses are critical in developing the skills required to handle emergencies and administer IV-line medications competently.

Please note that these competencies will be necessary to ensure that you can safely manage situations such as anaphylactic shock and effectively provide the full range of services outlined in your Section 22A(15) permit.

Yours sincerely,

Vincent Tlala  
**Registrar/CEO**

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