

Allow Medical Assistants to Vaccinate

Support Governor Hochul's budget proposal allowing Medical Assistants (MAs) to vaccinate.

CHCANYS strongly recommends that physicians, physician assistants (PAs), and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) be allowed to delegate and supervise MAs' tasks related to immunizations consistent with the Governor's proposal in the Health and Mental Hygiene Executive Budget, A.10007/S.9007, Part N, Subpart A.

Medical Assistants are underutilized in New York State.

- Pursuant to State Education Department (SED) directives, New York currently does not allow MAs to vaccinate.
 - This is notwithstanding the fact that many are trained to do so as a result of completing nationally credentialed programs.
- MAs are an integral part of CHC care teams delivering coordinated, patient-centered care.
- Trained in both administrative and clinical roles, MAs assist health care practitioners in efficient high-quality care in outpatient or ambulatory care facilities.
- Neighboring states (such as Connecticut and Massachusetts) formally recognize MAs and authorize them to provide a variety of health-related services, include administering vaccines.

Allowing Medical Assistants to vaccinate can expand care capacity amid healthcare workforce shortages.

Seasonal demand for COVID, flu, RSV and childhood vaccines intensify existing pressures on CHC workforce.

- Integrating MAs into existing vaccination efforts at CHCs and other healthcare providers can allow nurses, physician assistants, and doctors to address more complex cases.
- Allowing MAs to vaccinate improves healthcare efficiency and expands access to care.

Support Governor Hochul's Budget Proposal allowing MAs to vaccinate under qualifying supervision (HMH Art. VII Part N Subpart A)