



Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary - Acadia

M.O. 645/2020

WHEREAS section 3.1 of Schedule 7.1 of the *Government Organization Act* provides that for the purposes of preventing, combating or alleviating a public health emergency as defined in the *Public Health Act*, the Minister may by order authorize a person or category of persons to perform one or more restricted activities subject to any terms or conditions the Minister may prescribe;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has established a plan to increase testing for COVID-19 and part of that plan includes authorizing regulated members under the *Health Professions Act*, who are not otherwise authorized through regulation, to perform certain restricted activities; and

WHEREAS some regulated professions under the *Health Professions Act* have expressed interest in and willingness to perform nasopharyngeal swabbing for the purposes of testing for COVID-19;

THEREFORE, I, TYLER SHANDRO, Minister of Health, pursuant to section 3.1 of Schedule 7.1 of the *Government Organization Act*, hereby:

1. Authorize the following regulated members under the *Health Professions Act*
 - Clinical Pharmacists under the Alberta College of Pharmacy;
 - Dental Hygienists under the College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Alberta;
 - Dental Assistants under the College of Alberta Dental Assistants; and
 - Dieticians under the College of Dieticians of Alberta

to perform the following restricted activity, on the terms and conditions set out in Appendix A:

- To insert or remove instruments, devices, fingers or hands beyond the point in the nasal passages where they normally narrow for the purposes of nasopharyngeal swabbing.

M.O 645/2020

This Order takes effect upon signing.

DATED AT EDMONTON, Alberta, this 29 day of October, 2020.



TYLER SHANDRO Q.C.
MINISTER

Appendix A

Terms and Conditions Applicable to Performance of the Restricted Activity Authorized in this Ministerial Order

- An authorized person may only perform the activity authorized by this Ministerial Order for the purpose of nasopharyngeal swabbing.
- An authorized person may only perform the activity authorized by this Ministerial Order once they have successfully completed training which has been approved by Alberta Health Services.
- An authorized person may only perform the activity authorized by this Ministerial Order once they have met any other criteria required by the employer they are employed by.
- An authorized person must obtain permission to perform the activity by their regulated profession.
- An authorized person is subject to any standards of practice, guidelines or policies imposed by their regulated profession.