

How long will it take to be placed with a family practice in my community?

Unfortunately, we are not able to provide a specific timeline for being connected with a family practice. When we are aware of family practices that are accepting new patients, we give them a list of names of people without a primary care provider from that community in the order in which they added their names to the registry.

To improve access to care, Nova Scotia Health Authority is continually working to recruit family doctors and other health care professionals. As well, we are working to create more and strengthen existing collaborative family practice teams to enhance access to comprehensive primary health care for Nova Scotians.

Where am I on the registry?

Unfortunately, we are not able to confirm your position on the registry. Names are added according to the date a person has registered, by community. A number of where a person is on the registry does not exist. People are assisted in the order in which they have registered – on a first come, first served basis. This is the recommended approach by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia in its professional standard and guidelines regarding accepting new patients.

Can I register in multiple communities for the first available family practice?

No, we are unable to offer registration in multiple communities. You can add your name to the registry using any one address (such as your home or workplace), depending on which location may be more convenient for accessing a family practice (e.g. when you work in one community and live in another).

I already have a family doctor/family practice but would like to change doctors/practices. Can my name be added to the registry?

Our immediate focus is helping those who are without a family practice, so that as many people as possible can get access to care. As a result, we are not able to add your name to the registry at this time.

I have a family practice, but have moved to another part of the province. Can I add my name to the registry?

Yes. If you are unable to access your primary care provider because you have moved, please register online, or by calling 811.

Do all family practices use the registry to accept new patients?

Nova Scotia Health Authority encourages family practices to contact us when they are able to accept new patients. Family physicians are independent health care providers who determine how and when they accept new patients into their practice. This can be from the registry, or another method that works best for their practice (e.g. their own wait list, advertisements, family members of existing patients, etc.).

How can my family access childhood immunizations if I do not have a primary care provider?

Public Health offers various immunization services across Nova Scotia for those who are not able to access them through a family practice. You will need to call your [local Public Health office](#) to register for immunization services. Once you are assisted with finding a family practice, you can provide your personal immunization record (yellow card) to your provider to ensure they have your full immunization history.