



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



Influenza Vaccine

Influenza vaccine is recommended for anyone over the age of 6 months without contraindications. High-risk groups include: persons at high-risk of influenza-related complications or more likely to require hospitalization and persons capable of transmitting influenza to those at high-risk. **Influenza vaccine will be available to order for healthcare providers (HCPs) beginning on October 1, 2020.** The influenza vaccine order form will be available through www.durham.ca/hcp.

Publicly Funded Influenza Vaccines for Durham Region (2020/2021)

	Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV)			High-Dose Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine (HD -TIV)
Vaccine product	FluLaval Tetra	Fluzone® Quadrivalent	Flucelvax® Quad	Fluzone® High-Dose
Micrograms of haemagglutinin	15 µg	15 µg	15 µg	60 µg
Dose	0.5 ml	0.5 ml	0.5 ml	0.5 ml
Route	Intramuscular injection	Intramuscular injection	Intramuscular injection	Intramuscular injection
Age indication	≥ 6 months	≥ 6 months	≥ 9 years	≥ 65 years
Most common allergens	Egg protein* Thimerosal**	Egg protein* Thimerosal**	Does NOT contain egg protein	Egg protein*

*NACI indicates that egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using the full dose of any appropriate product, including High-Dose TIV. **Thimerosal present in multidose vials

- Nasal spray vaccine (FluMist® Quadrivalent) is not publicly funded this influenza season, however will be available through private purchase.
- Children 6 months to less than 9 years of age receiving any seasonal influenza vaccine for the first time should be given **2 doses of vaccine**, with minimum interval of 4 weeks between doses.
- Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) receives influenza vaccine from the Ontario Government Pharmacy in several shipments and you may receive either Quadrivalent (QIV) influenza vaccine based on supply (FluLaval® Tetra or Fluzone® Quadrivalent).

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



- DRHD will only receive part of the influenza vaccine allocation in October. Every effort will be made to distribute the vaccine as fairly and equitably as possible to ensure that all HCPs receive some supply to immunize their most vulnerable patients.

New This Year

- Fluzone® High-Dose contains a higher antigen content and is authorized for those 65 years of age and over. It will be available through primary care providers, participating hospitals, LTC, retirement homes and for the **first time through local pharmacies**.
- Flucelvax® Quad is available initially **only through pharmacies**. This vaccine may be allocated to primary care providers later in the season, based on availability. Flucelvax® Quad is only authorized for individuals 9 years of age and over and should not be used in younger children.
- The Ministry of Health will be encouraging pharmacy administration in the later part of the season so primary care providers can focus on COVID-19 and primary care.
- Plan large immunization clinics in November to ensure there is enough vaccine. If held earlier (i.e. October), there is a risk of waiting for additional vaccine due to decreased stock supply.

COVID-19

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, individuals with symptoms of acute respiratory infection (including minor symptoms such as sore throat or runny nose), should defer influenza immunization until 10 days from onset of symptoms or they have recovered, whichever is later.
- Individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, and those who are close contacts of cases should not attend influenza immunization appointments during their period of self isolation.
- Pharmacies participating in the Universal Influenza Immunization Program can administer influenza vaccine to individuals 5 years of age and over. Influenza vaccine will be available at local pharmacies to support accessibility.
- The NACI publication on [Guidance for influenza vaccine delivery in the presence of COVID-19](#) can be found on the Public Health Agency of Canada website.

Influenza Vaccine Clinics

The Health Department will be offering clinics to the following individuals (dates to be determined):

- Individuals who do not have OHIP
- Under the age of 5 years and unable to access a doctor or nurse practitioner
- 65 years of age and older and unable to access a doctor or nurse practitioner

Patients can call the Durham Health Connection Line at 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 for more information. Additional information will be provided once available.



Influenza Vaccine Ordering and Pickup

The influenza vaccine order form will be available on **October 1** through www.durham.ca/hcp.

Influenza vaccine **will be allocated to sites based on usage from the 2019/2020 Influenza season. Orders may be reduced due to stock availability.** When picking up a vaccine order, please call and advise Health Reception of your arrival. Prior to entering the building, please ensure you complete the [COVID-19 provincial screening tool](#). COVID-19 screening is mandatory prior to receiving all vaccine orders. Influenza vaccine is only available for pick up at our **Whitby** location.

Health Reception (West Doors): 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby. Phone: 905-668-7711 ext. 3131

2020/2021 influenza information is posted on the Ministry of Health website available at ontario.ca/influenza.

September 25, 2020

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