

Correction - Multi-Dose Vials of Flu Vaccine & Thimerosal and Flu Vaccine Supply Update

Attention: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Long-Term Care Facilities, Rest & Retirement Homes, Walk-in Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Hospitals, Infection Control Practitioners, Hospital Occupational Health Nurses, Hospital Pharmacies, Correctional Facilities, Participating Health Care Agencies, NSM LHIN, Central LHIN, Beausoliel Health Centre

Date: October 19, 2018

It has come to our attention that there was an error in the table below in our Annual UIIP Healthfax. As in previous years, all multi dose vials (MDV) of influenza vaccine contain trace amounts of Thimerosal as a preservative. Therefore, Thimerosal is a potential allergen in the MDV format of both Fluzone® Quadrivalent and FluLaval® Tetra.

Vaccine	Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccines (QIV)		Quadrivalent - Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine	High-Dose Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine (High-Dose TIV)
	FluLaval® Tetra	Fluzone® Quadrivalent	FluMist® Quadrivalent	Fluzone®
Dosage	0.5 mL	0.5 mL	0.2 mL (0.1mL in each nostril)	0.5 mL
Format(s)	Multi-dose vial	Multi-dose vial (MDV) & Prefilled syringe (PFS)	Prefilled single use sprayer	Prefilled syringe
Administration Route	Intramuscular injection	Intramuscular injection	Intranasal spray	Intramuscular injection
Age Indications as per product monograph	≥6 months	≥6 months	2 to 59 years	≥65 years
Most Common Allergens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg Protein* • Thimerosal 	MDV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg Protein* • Thimerosal PFS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg Protein* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arginine • Egg Protein* • Gelatin • Gentamicin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg Protein*
Post-Puncture Shelf Life	28 days	MDV: 28 days PFS: N/A	N/A	N/A
Package Dimensions in cm	3 x 3 x 6	MDV: 3.6 x 2.9 x 6 PFS: 10.4 x 8.9 x 3.8	10.6 x 17.6 x 2.9	10.4 x 8.9 x 2.3

*According to NACI, egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using the full dose of any appropriate product, including QIV, Q-LAIV and high-dose TIV.

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Influenza Vaccine Supply Updates

Replenishment Orders of Flu Vaccine

The health unit will be receiving our first replenishment order of influenza vaccine on October 26th. **Orders received for more flu vaccine by 3pm on Tuesday October 23rd will be available for pick up on Tuesday October 30th.** Vaccine will continue to be available to order weekly as needed thereafter. Note that private pharmacies do not receive their influenza vaccine from the health unit, as the provincial government has a separate supply chain for them.

All providers are only to stock a one to two week supply of influenza vaccine. This is to prevent large amounts of vaccine wastage as a result of a power outage or fridge malfunction. The package sizes of some products may also impact fridge space. Health unit staff may adjust orders taking into account your current inventory, the size of your vaccine fridge and current vaccine supply.

If there is a reason you are ordering a large amount of vaccine (i.e. you have a clinic booked), please note this on the order form so that staff can take this into account when reviewing your order.

High Dose Fluzone® Vaccine (for those 65+ years of age)

There is only a limited supply of this vaccine (25,000 doses for all of Simcoe Muskoka) available. We allocated this vaccine initially to those living in LTCHs, those in hospital and those living in Rest and Retirement Homes. The remaining supply is being distributed equitably to all Primary Care Providers for their patients.

There will not be enough of this vaccine for every person 65+ and people should not wait to see if it's available. It is most important that people receive their flu vaccine as soon as it is available, and the health unit does not recommend delaying anyone's flu immunization and chance missing the opportunity for them to be immunized.

This vaccine is not available through the pharmacies participating in the UIIP.

FluMist® Quadrivalent Vaccine

The health unit has not yet received our supply of FluMist® vaccine. **For those who order this vaccine by 3pm on Tuesday October 23rd, it will be available in orders ready for pick up Tuesday October 30th.** There is a limited supply of this vaccine as well (1,000 doses for all of Simcoe Muskoka). The supply will be distributed as equitably as possible to Primary Care Providers. The pharmacy distributors also received a limited supply of this vaccine, so it may be available at local pharmacies. Pharmacists can only administer this vaccine to those 5 through 17 years of age.

If you have any questions regarding the vaccine ordering process please contact the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 705-721-7520 or toll free at 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8808.

If you are calling to report a Cold Chain Failure, or have any questions regarding influenza vaccines please contact the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 705-721-7520 or toll free at 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8806.