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Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) 2022-2023

Attention: Participating UIIP Agencies: Long-Term Care Facilities; Rest & Retirement Homes; Hospital Pharmacies; Hospital Occupational Health Nurses; Infection Control Practitioners; LHIN

Date: September 20, 2022

The following public funded influenza vaccines will be available for the 2022-2023 flu season:

Age Group	QIV			QIV-HD	TIV-adj
	FluLaval Tetra	Fluzone® Quadrivalent	Afluria® Tetra	Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent	Fluad®
6 months to 4 years	✓	✓			
5 to 64 years	✓	✓	✓		
≥ 65 years	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Strains of influenza in the vaccine products offered in the 2022/2023 UIIP:

Influenza Strains	Egg-based QIVs	Egg-based TIVs (Fluad®)
A/Victoria/2570/2019 (H1N1) pdm09-like virus	✓	✓
A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like virus	✓	✓
B/Austria/1359417/2021(B/Victoria lineage)-like virus	✓	✓
B/Phuket/3073/2013(B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus	✓	

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Vaccine Ordering Information

As in previous years, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) will only receive part of their influenza vaccine allocation initially. Every effort will be made to distribute the vaccine as equitably as possible to ensure that all health care providers (HCPs) receive some supply to immunize their most vulnerable patients.

In October, HCPs are to be immunizing only those who meet the high-risk criteria outlined below. Once the annual UIIP is officially launched by the Ministry of Health (early November), vaccine can be administered to the general population. **HCPs should not book any large clinics for patients that are not high risk until November.** To assist with planning, the following allocation and timelines have been established for vaccine ordering:

Health Care Provider	Order Due By	Ready for Pick up	Product	Maximum Quantity
Hospitals – high risk patients as per list below	Wed Sept 28 th	Wed Oct 5 th	QIV-HD for 65+ QIV	Based on assessment
LTC and Retirement Homes	Wed Sept 28 th	Wed Oct 5 th	QIV-HD QIV for any residents under 65	Based on bed numbers
Staff	Wed Sept 28 th	Wed Oct 5 th	QIV	Order one week supply initially
Reorders	Wed Oct 19 th	Wed Oct 26 th	QIV-HD QIV	Based on local supply

Long Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes

Order the number of doses of QIV-HD (residents 65+) and QIV (for any residents under 65) that you require for residents. Note: Vaccine packaging is large, so please only order what your fridge can safely store and re-order as needed. If you have a medical directive in place for staff immunization, order the required number of QIV doses. QIV-HD will be provided in a pre-filled syringe but does not come with a needle tip so please ensure you have enough needle tips in stock. QIV for staff may be either pre-filled syringe or multi-dose vial based on SMDHU inventory availability.

Hospitals

Order as needed for those considered high-risk as per listing below - QIV-HD (patients 65+) and QIV (for patients under 65 & staff). Pre-filled syringes will be shipped, so please only order what your fridge can safely store.

Important Reminders

- Weekly temperature log sheets must be submitted to SMDHU every Monday by 12 noon, via fax (705-726-3962) or email (VaccineOrders@smdhu.org), starting Monday, September 26, 2022. If your office is currently ordering COVID-19 vaccines, you should already be sending them as per above.

- When submitting your log sheets for the first time, please include the previous 4 weeks (with twice daily documented temperatures). If you recently had your inspection and do not have 4 weeks of temperature logs, please submit five consecutive days of twice daily fridge temperatures between 2 - 8°C so your initial order can be filled.
- The package sizes of some products may also impact fridge space. SMDHU staff may adjust orders considering 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. **Supply for larger clinics will not be available until November.**
- The 2022-23 Influenza Vaccine Order Form will be uploaded to the [SMDHU Health Professional portal](#) in the coming days. Only influenza vaccine orders submitted on this year's Influenza Vaccine Order Form will be filled. Be sure to choose the appropriate form based on which health unit office you pick up vaccine from.

Who Should Receive the Influenza Vaccine?

The influenza vaccine is recommended for all people six months of age and older without contraindications. Influenza vaccination will be very important this fall due to anticipated co-circulation of COVID-19.

High-risk Eligibility Criteria

- I. Individuals at high risk of influenza-related complications or who are more likely to require hospitalization include:
 - All pregnant individuals
 - People who are residents of nursing homes or other chronic care facilities
 - People \geq 65 years of age
 - All children 6 to 4 years of age (59 months of age)
 - Indigenous peoples 6 months and older
 - Adults or children 6 months of age and over with the following chronic health conditions:
 - Cardiac or pulmonary disorders
 - Diabetes mellitus or other metabolic disease
 - Cancer
 - Conditions or medication which compromise the immune system (due to underlying disease, therapy, or both)
 - Renal disease
 - Anemia or hemoglobinopathy
 - Neurologic or neurodevelopment conditions
 - Morbid obesity (body mass index of \geq 40)
 - Children and adolescents (6 months to 18 years) undergoing treatment with acetylsalicylic acid for long periods
- II. Individuals capable of transmitting influenza to those listed in group I and/or to infants under 6 months of age:
 - Health care workers and other care providers in facilities and community settings
 - Household contacts (adults and children) of individuals at high risk of influenza related complications
 - Persons who provide care to children \leq 4 years of age
 - Members of a household expecting a newborn during the influenza season
 - Those who provide services within a closed or relatively closed setting to persons at high risk of influenza related complications (e.g. crew on a ship)

- III. People who provide essential community services
- IV. Poultry industry workers

Co-administration with Other Vaccines

The influenza vaccines may be given concomitantly with, or at any time before or after, other vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, for individuals 5 years of age and older only.

Co-administration with COVID-19 vaccine is not currently recommended for individuals 6 months to under 5 years of age. It is advised to wait 14 days between vaccine products when administering COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines to prevent mistakenly connecting an adverse event to one specific vaccine or the other.

No studies have been conducted that have assessed the co-administration of **Shingrix** with adjuvanted or high-dose influenza vaccines. With Fluad, it is unknown how the adjuvants may interact when Shingrix is co-administered.

Publicly Funded Influenza Vaccines for Individuals 6 Months of Age and Older

- Fluzone® Quadrivalent and Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent are **different products**. **Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent is only authorized for those 65 years of age and older**. Please use caution when administering Fluzone® products to ensure that the right vaccine is being administered to the right person.
- The **shelf-life for all three multi-dose vial products** provided in this season's UIIP is 28 days post-vial puncture.

	Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccines		
UIIP Abbreviation	QIV		
NACI Abbreviation	IIV4-SD		
Vaccine product	FluLaval Tetra	Fluzone® Quadrivalent	Afluria® Tetra
Age indication	≥ 6 months	≥ 6 months	≥ 5 years
Manufacturer	GSK	Sanofi Pasteur	Seqirus
Vaccine Type	Egg-based	Egg-based	Egg-based
Micrograms of hemagglutinin	15 µg	15 µg	15 µg
Dosage	0.5 mL	0.5 mL	0.5 mL
Format	MDV (multi-dose vial)	MDV (multi-dose vial) PFS (pre-filled syringe)	MDV (multi-dose vial) PFS (pre-filled syringe)
Route	IM (Intramuscular injection)	IM (Intramuscular injection)	IM (Intramuscular injection)
Most common allergens¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg protein² • Thimerosal³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg protein² • Thimerosal³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg protein² • Neomycin • Polymyxin B • Thimerosal³

¹ Any component in a vaccine may be a potential allergen. This table identifies the most common allergens.

² The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) indicated that egg allergy is not a contraindication for influenza vaccination and that egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using the full dose of any age-appropriate product.

³ Multi-dose vial format only.

How Many Doses of Influenza Vaccine are Needed for Protection?

Age	Number of doses recommended
6 months to under 9 years of age – Not previously immunized with any influenza vaccine in their lifetime	2 doses at least 4 weeks apart ¹
6 months to under 9 years of age –Previously immunized with at least one dose of any influenza vaccine in their lifetime	1 dose
9 years of age and older	1 dose

¹ It is not necessary to use the same vaccine product for both doses.

Publicly Funded Influenza Vaccines for Individuals ≥65 Years of Age and Older Only

	High-Dose Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine	Adjuvanted Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine
UIIP Abbreviation	QIV-HD	TIV-adj
NACI Abbreviation	IIV4-HD	IIV3-Adj
Vaccine product	Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent	Fluad®
Age indication	≥ 65 years	≥ 65 years
Manufacturer	Sanofi Pasteur	Seqirus
Vaccine Type	Egg-based	Egg-based
Micrograms of hemagglutinin	60 µg	15 µg
Dosage	0.7 mL	0.5 mL
Adjuvant	No	Yes
Format	PFS (pre-filled syringe)	PFS (pre-filled syringe)
Route	IM (Intramuscular injection)	IM (Intramuscular injection)
Most common allergens¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg protein² 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg protein² • Neomycin • Kanamycin

¹ Any component in a vaccine may be a potential allergen. This table identifies the most common allergens.

² The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) indicated that egg allergy is not a contraindication for influenza vaccination and that egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using the full dose of any age-appropriate product.

Which Influenza Vaccine Should Individuals ≥ 65 Years of Age Receive?

The QIV, QIV-HD and TIV-adj **all** protect against the flu, and the most important thing is for older adults to be vaccinated. **Do not delay vaccination to wait for a particular product.**

For individual-level decision making, National Advisory Committee of Immunization (NACI) states that when available, high-dose (QIV-HD) should be used over standard-dose (QIV) inactivated influenza vaccine, given the burden of influenza A (H3N2) disease and the good evidence of better protection compared to standard-dose in adults 65 years of age and older.

In considering use of TIV-adj and QIV standard dose, given the increased burden of disease associated with influenza A (H3N2) in older adults, better protection against influenza A (H3N2) afforded by the TIV-adj may be more important, especially in those with multiple co-morbid conditions and compromised health status.

However, NACI states that in the absence of a specific product any of the available age-appropriate influenza vaccines should be used. **There is no preferential recommendation** for the use of QIV-HD versus TIV-adj vaccine for this age group.

Reporting Adverse Events

An [Adverse Event Following Immunization \(AEFI\) form](#) must be filled out and faxed to the Immunization Program (fax number **705-726-3962**) for follow-up immediately following any unexpected adverse events.

Additional Resources

If you have any questions regarding the vaccine ordering process, please contact the Immunization 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 Immunization Program at 705-721-7520 or toll free at 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8806.

For more information, support materials and forms refer to the following websites:

- [SMDHU Health Professionals Portal](#)
- [2022/2023 Universal Influenza Immunization Program \(UIIP\)](#)
 - [Health Care Provider Qs & As: Influenza Immunization Information for the 2022/2023 Influenza Season](#)
 - [Health Care Provider Qs & As: Influenza Immunization Information for individuals 6 months to 64 years of age](#)
 - [Health Care Provider Qs & As: Influenza Immunization Information for individuals \$\geq 65\$ years of age](#)
- [NACI Canadian Immunization Guide Chapter on Influenza and Statement on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2022/2023](#)