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Pharmacy Influenza/COVID-19 Vaccine Update

Attention: Participating UIIP Pharmacies, Ontario Health Central, Ontario Health Teams, Municipalities

Date: February 8, 2024

- While demand for influenza and COVID-19 vaccine has decreased, pharmacies are encouraged to keep a small amount of inventory on hand to accommodate individuals who are still seeking vaccination.
- Any vaccine returned to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) at this point is considered wastage and we cannot re-circulate it.
- While pharmacies continue to have influenza and/or COVID-19 vaccine in the fridge, you must continue to monitor vaccine fridge temperatures twice daily and submit temperature logs to the SMDHU on a weekly basis.
- If your pharmacy no longer has influenza or COVID-19 vaccines in stock, and you will not be getting more supply from your distributor, you may discontinue submitting your temperature logs to the SMDHU weekly.
- A reminder that if at any time your vaccine fridge contains vaccine and the temperatures are outside of 2°C to 8°C, call 705-721-7520 Ext. 8806, as this could be a cold chain failure.
- Pharmacies may continue to administer influenza vaccine until the expiry date.
- All publicly funded COVID-19 and influenza vaccine that is not used by your pharmacy must be returned to the SMDHU. Returned vaccine must include a [Vaccine Return Form](#) which can be found on the [SMDHU website](#) under additional forms. Vaccine is to be returned to your local Health Unit office. It does not need to be maintained under cold chain.

If you have questions, please call the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Immunization Program at 705-721-7520 Ext. 8806 or toll free at 1-877-751-7520 Ext. 8806 Monday to Friday between 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

