

interior health

September 2012

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TO VIEW ANY PAST MHO
UPDATES GO TO:
[www.interiorhealth.ca/
MHOupdates.aspx](http://www.interiorhealth.ca/MHOupdates.aspx)

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**AFTER HOURS CALL
1-866-457-5648**

Fall 2012 Influenza Vaccine Update

Vaccine Shipments: The influenza vaccine production from one of the two national suppliers to BC is running 1-2 weeks behind schedule, due to slower virus vaccine growth delaying final inactivated vaccine production. Therefore the vaccine amounts we get in will be slightly later and lesser initially, and the official provincial start date for the general public influenza immunization program is planned to be October 22, 2012.

Provincially purchased influenza vaccine is expected to start arriving in IH main depot offices during the first two weeks of October, with 75% of health authority allotment expected to be arriving in depots by October 12. From there, vaccine is repackaged for distribution to the branch offices and to community vaccine providers, making vaccine available for pick-up during the week of October 15-19. **If you have previously received vaccine as part of the influenza immunization program and have already ordered vaccine for this season, please call your local health centre after October 16th to arrange pick-up of the vaccine.** If you have not previously participated in the program or ordered vaccine but plan to do so this season, please read below regarding access to vaccine order forms.

The initial partial shipments of vaccine received by IH will be split between a number of Community Vaccine Providers (CVP) including pharmacists, physicians, residential care facilities, First Nations and Workplace Health & Safety. **Due to the large number of community providers who participate in the influenza immunization program and the incremental arrival of vaccine supply to us as it comes off the production lines, Interior Health is unable to fill physician offices and other community vaccine providers' orders completely at the onset of the program,** and has to distribute the vaccine in several allotments. This ensures fair and equal distribution of vaccine to community partners.

Vaccine: For the 2012/2013 fall influenza immunization campaign, Interior Health will be receiving two vaccine products for the publicly funded program: multi-dose vials of thimerosal-reduced Vaxigrip® (Inactivated Split Virion from Sanofi Pasteur Ltd) and single dose syringes of Agriflu® (Inactivated Subunit from Novartis). Community providers will receive a supply of vaccine composed of 50% of each product. Vaxigrip®, which has a 7-day shelf life once the vial is punctured, is suitable for any client eligible for publicly funded influenza vaccine. Agriflu®, while preferentially for use with individuals with a known hypersensitivity to Thimerosal, and for use with pregnant women, can also be administered to any individual eligible for publicly funded vaccine. Influenza vaccine for the Canadian 2012/2013 season is a trivalent inactivated preparation containing the following virus strains:

- * A/California/7/2009 (H1N1) pdm09-like virus;
- * A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2)-like virus; and
- * B/Wisconsin/1/2010-like virus (B Yamagata lineage)



All immunizing physicians are encouraged to assess their seniors and other at-risk patients for pneumococcal vaccination status, order Pneumo-23 product from your local IH Health Centre and provide it to those eligible. Information on pneumococcal 23 vaccine eligibility is available at the BCCDC Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter II, Immunization Program Section VII – Biological Products (see specific pneumococcal vaccine pages) at <http://www.bccdc.ca/NR/rdonlyres/B1474C0C-BF48-4EE6-90DD-BB7885B05464/0/SectionVIIBiologicalProductsJuly2012.pdf>

Attached is a list of the Health Centres and IH contact names for your area. Community influenza immunization clinics will be offered by Interior Health Promotion & Prevention staff and will largely commence the week of October 22 and in the weeks thereafter – although supplies may allow a few clinics to be held in larger central locations the preceding week. A list of community clinics will be posted on the Interior Health website at <http://www.interiorhealth.ca> go to Your Health > Immunization > 2012 Seasonal Flu Campaign > Flu Clinics. For media releases on the IH website go to About Us > Media Centre > News Releases. Patients may also phone Health Centres or influenza information lines where available.

The National Advisory Committee Statement on Influenza Vaccination for the 2012-2013 season will be available in the Canadian Communicable Disease Report. This publication can be accessed on the Public Health Agency of Canada website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/naci-ccni/index-eng.php>; scroll to Recent Statements.

BC continues to recommend that **eligible** children < 9 years of age, including 6-23 month olds, receive two doses of vaccine 4 weeks apart **ONLY** if they are previously unvaccinated or if influenza vaccination history is uncertain. If one or more doses have been received in any preceding season, only one dose will be given. New this year is the addition of healthy children 24-59 months of age to those eligible to receive publicly funded influenza vaccine.

Publicly funded vaccine can only be provided to those individuals approved within BC as listed (next page). While in accordance with NACI statements, all persons who wish to avoid influenza symptoms can benefit from receiving the influenza vaccination, such optional provision of the vaccines must be provided using privately purchased vaccine supply, not that supplied through the BC public program. IH clinics will not be providing any vaccine for purchase by individuals ineligible for the public program. Physicians wishing to provide this pay service must order their vaccine supply for this purpose through private vaccine suppliers or other purchase systems. Physicians are expected to ensure that persons eligible for publicly provided vaccine are provided publicly purchased vaccine without any charges to the patient. Influenza vaccination for person eligible for the publicly provided vaccine can be billed as a code P10015.

Adverse Reactions Following Immunization: All immunizers are reminded that any significant or unexpected adverse reactions following immunization with any vaccine product, should be reported to the local public health nurse, who will forward it to the Medical Health Officer for assessment and recommendation on future immunization.

Resources for Immunizers: Once again, IH will be offering Influenza Education (Flu School) sessions for immunizers including IH staff and community vaccine providers. Details regarding these sessions are available on www.interiorhealth.ca under the Partners tab > Immunization Resources & Tools. Here you will find Flu School resources together with other Influenza Resources including vaccine order forms, reporting forms, the document Influenza Resources for Vaccine Providers and cold chain information.

Publicly funded influenza vaccine is available for:

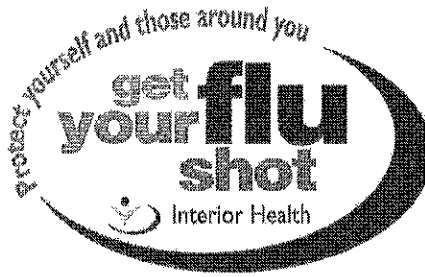
- Children and adults with chronic health conditions and their household contacts
- Children & adolescents (6 months to 18 years) with conditions treated for long periods of time with Acetylsalicylic acid and their household contacts
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities
- People 65 years and older and their caregivers/household contacts
- All children 6 to 59 months of age
- Household contacts and caregivers of infants 0 to 59 months of age
- Pregnant women who will be in their third trimester during influenza season and their household contacts (pregnant women who are in other high risk groups can be immunized at any time during the pregnancy)
- Aboriginal people
- People who are morbidly obese (BMI \geq 40)
- Health care and other care providers in facilities and community settings who are capable of transmitting influenza disease to those at high risk of influenza complications
- Inmates of provincial correctional institutions
- People who provide essential community services (First Responders, Corrections Workers)
- People who work with live poultry and/or swine
- Individuals who provide care of service in potential outbreak settings housing high risk persons (e.g., crew on ships)

Recommended Influenza Vaccine Dosage by Age			
Age	Vaccine Type	Dose (mL)	No. of Doses
6 months – 8 yrs	subunit / split-virus*	0.5	1 or 2**
\geq 9 yrs	subunit / split-virus	0.5	1
* All vaccines provided by IH are subunit / split-virus preparations			
** Previously unvaccinated children < 9 yrs require two doses of the split-virus influenza vaccine, with an interval of 4 weeks.			
Influenza vaccine should be administered intramuscularly. The deltoid muscle is the recommended site in adults and children \geq 12 months of age. The anterolateral thigh is the recommended site in infants < 12 months of age. Recommended needle gauge and length is 25G and 1 to 1.5 inches.			

IH Health Unit Contact Names/Number

Health Unit	Contact Name	Numbers
100 Mile House	Tammy Fisher	P: 250-395-7676; F: 250-395-7675
Armstrong/Enderby/Vernon/Lumby	Judy Loog	P: 250-549-5700 F: 250-549-5711
Ashcroft/Cache Creek		P: 250-453-1940; F: 250-453-1952
Barriere	Sharon Spooner	P: 250-672-5515; F: 250-672-5144
Castlegar	Lydia Plotkoff	P: 250-365-4310; F: 250-365-4303
Chase	Anne McDonald	P: 250-679-1393; F: 250-679-5329
Clearwater	Lynette Taylor	P: 250-674-3141; F: 250-674-2477
Cranbrook	Sarah Rempel	P: 250-420-4165; F: 250-420-2295
Creston	Kathleen Fenrick	P: 250-428-3873; F: 250-428-3880
Elkford/Sparwood	Colleen Morandini	P: 250-425-2064; F: 250-425-2378
Fernie	Tricia Croteau	P: 250-423-8288; F: 250-423-8280
Glanville (Grand Forks)	Dorothy Swinarchuk	P: 250-443-3150; F: 250-443-3180
Golden	Sue Jankovic	P: 250-344-3001; F: 250-344-2817
Invermere	Nancy Wilfley	P: 250-342-2360; F: 250-342-2373
Kamloops	Pam Jeffries	P: 250-851-7300; F: 250-851-7301
Kaslo	Cathi Anderson	P: 250-353-2751; F: 250-353-2738
Kelowna	Karo Kleinhaar	P: 250-868-7753 F: 250-868-7809
Keremeos	Wendy Stewart	P: 250-499-3029 F: 250-499-3027
Kimberley	Sarah Rempel	P: 250-427-2215; F: 250-427-7389
Lillooet	Nadine Bennett	P: 250-256-1314; F: 250-256-1332
Logan Lake/Merritt	Candice Bateson	P: 250-378-3400; F: 250-378-3287
Midway	Memory Delisle	P: 250-449-2887; F: 250-449-2889
Nakusp	Vanessa Hepperle	P: 250-265-3608; F: 250-265-3104
Nelson	Christy Meldrum	P: 250-505-7217; F: 250-505-7211
Oliver	Linda Gardener	P: 250-498-5080 F: 250-498-0351
Osoyoos	Linda Gardener	P: 250-495-6433 F: 250-495-5142
Penticton	Crystal Bateman	P: 250-770-3424 F: 250-770-3410
Princeton	Kelsi Walton	P: 250-295-4442 F: 250-295-4443
Revelstoke	Roberta Skalicky	P: 250-814-2244; F: 250-814-2243
Rutland	Cathy van de Sype	P: 250-980-4821; F: 250-765-7710
Salmon Arm	Michelle Gauthier	P: 250-833-4100; F: 250-833-4117
Sicamous	Marjorie Dewit	P: 250-836-4835; F: 250-836-3166
Summerland	Kathy Hiebert	P: 250-404-8050 F: 250-404-8057
Trail	Jenny Towns	P: 250-364-6203; F: 250-364-6218
West Kelowna	Connie Griffin	P: 250-980-5153; F: 250-768-9813
Williams Lake	April Dell	P: 250-302-5000; F: 250-302-5002

Please submit your orders as soon as possible. Contact your local health unit to find out when vaccine will be ready for pickup or delivery. In order to maintain the cold chain, vaccine will not be released without a cooler and ice.



INFLUENZA VACCINE ORDER FORM 2012

Name of Physician: _____

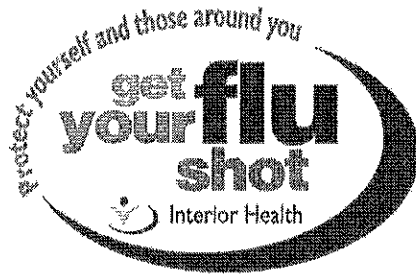
Phone _____ Fax _____

Doses of Vaccine Requested _____



Interior Health

Please copy this order form as required for physicians in the office.



INFLUENZA VACCINE ORDER FORM 2012

Name of Facility: _____

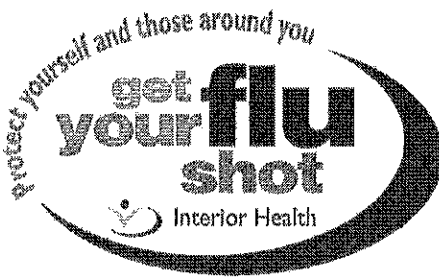
Name of Facility Contact Person: _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Doses of Vaccine Requested _____



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INFLUENZA VACCINE ORDER FORM 2012

Workplace Health and Safety

Name of Facility _____

Name of Occupational Health Nurse _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Doses of Vaccine Requested _____



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