

Influenza Immunization Program

2019 - 2020 Season

Update #1

September 2019



This notice contains important information for influenza immunizers on ordering, distribution, education, and reporting responsibilities related to influenza vaccine. **Please note that publicly funded Flumist® (live attenuated intranasal influenza vaccine) will NOT be available within the Canadian market this coming season.**

1. Ordering Information for 2019-2020 Season

- a) Immunizers who provided flu shots during the 2018-2019 season **DO NOT** need to place an initial order for influenza vaccine. They will receive a vaccine allocation based on reported usage during the previous year.
- b) New influenza vaccine immunizers who did not receive publicly funded influenza vaccine from IH last year should complete an order form at <https://www.interiorhealth.ca/sites/Partners/ImmunizationResourcesTools/Documents/Influenza%20Vaccine%20Order%20Form%20-%20Health%20Care%20Provider.pdf> and fax it to the local public health centre.
- c) Once all immunizers have received their allotment and if excess vaccine has been identified, a communication will be sent stating additional doses may be ordered through their local Health Centre.
- d) **Encourage Pneumococcal Vaccine:** Order Pneumo-23 from your local IH health center. Get information on pneumococcal polysaccharide 23 vaccine eligibility from the BCCDC Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2, Immunization Program, [Part 4-Biological Products](#) > Pneumococcal Vaccines.
- e) Immunizers will receive notification when vaccine is available for pick-up in October. **It is not necessary to contact your local health centre at this time.**

2. Influenza Education

Influenza education will be available via the listed BCCDC on-line courses only. Effective August 15th, all of the BCCDC online immunization courses will move to PHSA's LearningHub and will no longer be housed on bccdclearning.ca. The courses themselves will not have any significant changes so will look and feel the same. The LearningHub website is <http://learninghub.phsa.ca>. An IH Flu School will **not** be provided.

- a) Foundations of Influenza—Disease & Vaccines at <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/education-development/immunization-courses/foundations-of-influenza-diseases-vaccines>. This course is designed for those new to influenza immunizations as well as those who want in-depth information on the disease and/or vaccines.
- b) Seasonal Influenza Update at <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/education-development/immunization-courses/seasonal-influenza-update>. This course is appropriate for those who have taken the Foundations course and/or experienced clinicians wanting an update for this influenza season.

How to Register? Go to the LearningHub website at <http://learninghub.phsa.ca>. It is easy to register.

3. Visit the IH Partner Website (www.interiorhealth.ca > Partners) to keep informed.

- a) Get immunization forms, resources and tools.
- b) Review [Vaccine Storage and Handling Quick Reference Guide](#) and [Handle Vaccine with Care](#)
- c) Find more information in the BCCDC Communicable Disease Control Manual, [Chapter 2 Immunization Program](#) (www.bccdc.ca).