



Consent for Influenza Immunization

This form is to be used **ONLY** in instances where a Parent/Guardian/Agent (the decision-maker) is unable to accompany their child/dependent, in person, to an Influenza immunization clinic. Instead, the decision-maker may **complete this form in advance and send it with the child/dependent** and their escort (*if applicable*) to the immunization clinic.

Demographics	
Child/Dependent Name (<i>Last, First</i>)	Date of Birth (<i>yyyy-Mon-dd</i>)
Personal Health Number	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
In order to proceed with influenza immunization for the above named child/dependent, please answer the following questions. If you require additional space, please use the reverse side.	
Does the child/dependent have any known allergies?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe
Does the child/dependent have any history of chronic illness?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe
Is the child/dependent on any medication?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe
Has the child/dependent had a previous dose of influenza vaccine?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, when
Has the child/dependent had a previous reaction to influenza immunization?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, describe
Declaration of Consent	
<p>I confirm that I have read the attached influenza vaccine information sheet regarding the risks, benefits and potential side effects associated with the influenza vaccine. I am aware that I must contact Health Link if I have any questions, or if I have any concerns about the child/dependent receiving the influenza vaccine. I have had the opportunity to have my questions answered by calling the local public health centre or Health Link. I am satisfied with and understand the information I have been given, and I consent to the child/dependent receiving the influenza immunization as determined to be most appropriate by the immunizer.</p> <p>I understand that I may, at any time, withdraw this consent to the influenza immunization by calling the local public health centre.</p> <p>I confirm that I have the legal authority to provide consent to this immunization.</p>	
Printed Name of Person(s) Giving Consent	Relationship to Child/Dependent <input type="checkbox"/> Parent(with the authority to consent) <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Daytime Phone Number	Alternate Phone Number
Signature of Person(s) Giving Consent	Date (<i>yyyy-Mon-dd</i>)

Alberta Health Services collects health information in accordance with Section 20 of the *Health Information Act* (HIA) for the purpose of providing health services, determining eligibility for health services, or to carry out any other purpose authorized by the HIA. If you have any questions about this collection, please ask your health care provider or contact the Chief Privacy Officer at 1-877-476-9874.

For Office Use Only

Telephone/Fax Consent			
Mode by which consent was received	<input type="checkbox"/> Fax/Scan	<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	
Printed Name of Person Obtaining the Consent		Date (yyyy-Mon-dd)	Time
Signature of Person Obtaining the Consent			
Consent Using an Interpreter (for non-English speaking parent/client)			
Interpreter's Name or ID #	Telephone	Date (yyyy-Mon-dd)	Time

Administration Record Details

Date (yyyy-Mon-dd)	Lot Number	Dose	Site	Signature/Designation

Notes

Influenza (FLU) Vaccine

Immunization protects you from disease. Get protected, get immunized.

- Vaccines make your immune system stronger by building antibodies, which help prevent diseases.
- Immunization is very safe. It's much safer to get immunized than to get this disease.

Who should have influenza vaccine?

Influenza vaccine is recommended for all Albertans 6 months and older.

Everyone is at risk of influenza, and anyone can get very sick and develop complications. However, the risk is highest if you:

- have some types of health problems (e.g., heart/lung conditions, diabetes, weak immune system and others)
- live in a care facility
- are 65 years or older
- are a child under 5 years old
- are pregnant
- are Indigenous

It's very important for the above people and their close contacts (e.g., family, caregivers, healthcare providers) to get immunized every season.

Are there different types of influenza vaccines?

There are 2 main types of influenza vaccine:

- injection (inactivated)
- nasal spray (live)

Your health care provider will talk to you about which vaccine is best for you.

How many doses do I need?

One dose of influenza vaccine is needed to protect you through each influenza season (late fall through winter). If your child is less than 9 years of age and getting influenza vaccine for the first time, your child will need 2 doses of vaccine this season, given at least 4 weeks apart.

Influenza viruses change every season. By getting the influenza vaccine each season, you will be protected against the viruses that could otherwise make you sick.

How well does influenza vaccine work?

How well the vaccine works changes from one influenza season to another. A new vaccine is made every year to protect against the 3 or 4 viruses that are most likely to cause sickness in that season. Even when the vaccine doesn't exactly match the viruses going around, it can still give some protection.

Overall, the vaccine lowers your risk of getting influenza by about half. Even if you do get influenza, it won't be as bad and won't last as long as if you didn't get immunized.

Protection starts about 2 weeks after you get the vaccine.

Where can I get the vaccine?

Influenza immunization is offered, free of charge, to all Albertans (six months of age and older) at AHS Influenza Immunization Clinics around Alberta, from later October through end of March. To find local clinic schedules, visit www.ahs.ca/influenza or call Health Link at 811.

Many family physicians and pharmacists also offer influenza vaccine. Call ahead before visiting to find out if your doctor/pharmacist is offering vaccine this season.

Are there side effects from the vaccine?

Reactions to the vaccine are usually mild, go away within a few days, and may include:

- redness, swelling, and/or discomfort where the needle was given (injection)
- runny/stuffy nose or a cough (nasal spray)
- feeling tired or irritable
- headache or body aches
- fever
- decreased appetite, nausea, or vomiting

It's important to stay for at least 15 minutes after any immunization because rarely people can have a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

Unexpected or unusual reactions can happen after being immunized. Call Health Link at 811 to report any unusual reactions.

How can I manage side effects?

- To decrease discomfort and swelling, put a cool, moist cloth over the area.
- If you need medicine for fever or pain, check with your pharmacist or doctor. Don't give aspirin to anyone younger than 19 years old because it can cause serious health problems.
- Some people with health problems (e.g., weak immune system) must call their doctor whenever they get a fever. If you've been told to do this, you still need to call your doctor—even if you think the fever was caused by the immunization.

Is there anyone who can't have influenza vaccine?

You may not be able to have influenza vaccine if you have:

- an allergy to any part of the vaccine – always tell your health care provider about allergies
- had a severe or unusual reaction after influenza vaccine or any vaccine with the same components – always tell your health care provider if you've had reactions

You may not be able to have the live vaccine (nasal spray) if you:

- are younger than 2 years or older than 59 years
- are pregnant
- have severe asthma
- have a weak immune system
- have sickle cell anemia
- are younger than 17 years and are taking medicine with aspirin in it
- will be around anyone with a weak immune system in the 2 weeks after you're immunized

You can still be immunized if you have an allergy to eggs or a mild illness (e.g., cold), even if you have a fever.

For More Information



Call Health Link at **811**



Go to **immunizealberta.ca**



Go to **www.ahs.ca/influenza**

Disease Quick Facts: Influenza

What it is

- An infection of the nose, throat, and lungs that's caused by a virus.
- Symptoms start suddenly and may include: fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, headache, muscle aches, loss of appetite, and feeling tired. Vomiting and diarrhea can happen but is more common in younger children.

Risks

- Pneumonia is the most common complication of influenza
- Influenza can make other health problems worse.
- Even healthy, young people can get very sick and die from influenza.
- Each year, more than 12,000 people in Canada are admitted to hospital and 3,500 die from influenza.

How it spreads

- Influenza is easily spread by tiny droplets when an infected person sneezes, coughs, or even talks.
- The virus can be breathed in, or people can be exposed to it when they touch something that carries the virus (e.g., hands, objects) and then touch their eyes or nose.
- Influenza can spread before symptoms start.

How to prevent spreading influenza

Other ways to help prevent the spread of influenza:

- Wash your hands with warm water and soap or use hand sanitizers often
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your arm or a tissue, not your hand.
- Stay at home when you're sick