

Influenza Program Update

Planning and resource development for the Influenza Immunization Program for 2018-2019 is well underway. The start date of the public program is October 15, 2018. Public Health will begin immunizing high risk individuals starting October 1, 2018.

The *Influenza Vaccine Provider Registration Form* will be available on the Alberta Health Services website in early September; it can be accessed on the website at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/influenza/Page12438.aspx> or may be faxed to your site by your Zone Contact. The *Influenza Vaccine Provider Registration Form* contains a request for vaccine storage information. This section must be completed and then the form can be submitted by fax or email to your Zone Contact.

Confirmation of program enrolment will occur when you receive the *2018-2019 Medical Officer of Health Influenza Immunization Program Letter*. This letter will outline all aspects of the program for the 2018-2019 season. Influenza vaccine order sets will be added to the vaccine inventory system, AVI, as providers are accepted.

Influenza Vaccine for the 2018-2019 Program

Each year Alberta Health (AH – the provincial Ministry of Health) reviews the Alberta Influenza Immunization Program to prepare for the next year. This review looks at Alberta vaccine effectiveness data, National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommendations, epidemiological data, product usage and interchangeability, procurement and budgetary considerations. Based on this AH has purchased the following vaccines for this season's publicly funded program:

Fluzone® and Flulaval® will be the influenza vaccines available for this season, both vaccines are quadrivalent. Fluzone® and Flulaval® are licensed for all individuals 6 months of age and older including pregnant women.

2018-2019 Influenza Program Reporting

AHS must account to AH for all doses of influenza vaccine distributed to immunizing partners and report on vaccine utilization and immunization rates. All immunizing partners, in turn must provide accurate accounting of doses administered using forms provided by their AHS Zone Contact. Doses must be accounted for before additional vaccine will be sent.

Report forms accounting for number of influenza doses administered, wasted and on hand will be due to your Zone Contact on a monthly basis.

- Zone specific reporting forms are posted on the AHS website at www.albertahealthservices.ca/2824.asp.
- Community providers will have the option of submitting the reporting form via email or fax to their Zone Contact.
- Monthly reporting due dates will be indicated on the zone specific report form.

Zone Contacts

North	Edmonton	Central	Calgary	South
PCH.NZInfluenzareporting@ahs.ca	Jennifer Beaudry	Wendy Malo	Christine Sikora	Public Health Nursing Team
	T: 780-342-0230	T: 403-356-6409	T: 403-955-6750	T: 403-388-6684
	F: 780-342-0248	F: 403-356-6332	F: 403-955-6755	F: 403-380-2893