

Influenza Program Update

The Influenza Immunization Program for 2018-2019 is coming to an end with the exception of children who require a second dose of influenza vaccine. Eligible children will be able to receive this second dose of influenza vaccine up to and including April 30, 2019 at their local public health office.

As of March 30, 2019 **1,304,111 doses** of influenza vaccine have been administered in Alberta. Thank you for your support of the Alberta Influenza Immunization Program.

Influenza data for the 2018-2019 season is reported on a weekly basis. The number of doses of influenza vaccine administered by provider type across the province, number of laboratory confirmed cases of influenza, number of Albertans hospitalized with influenza disease and number of Albertans deceased who had lab confirmed influenza is available at http://public.tableau.com/views/AlbertaHealthServicesRespiratoryVirusSurveillance/Summary?:embed=y&:display_count=yes

As of March 30, 2019:

Public Health have provided 350,874 doses of influenza vaccine

Community Pharmacists have provided 723,883 doses of influenza vaccine

Other Community Partners have provided 229,354 doses of influenza vaccine

FNIHB have provided 7,815 doses of influenza vaccine

Remaining Doses of Influenza Vaccine

Remaining influenza vaccines should be disposed of in sharps containers in your office/clinic at the end of the program on March 31, 2019. You will be required to record this vaccine in the Alberta Vaccine Inventory (AVI) system as **Category: Wasted, Reason: Wasted/Influenza Season End** and in addition record this vaccine as wasted on your vaccine specific reporting forms.

2019-2020 Influenza Program Planning

Planning for the 2019-2020 Influenza Immunization Program has begun.

- The vaccine product for the provincially funded program will be a quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine for all persons 6 month of age and older.
- Immunizing partners will need to complete the *Influenza Program Registration Form*, which will require contact information and details related to vaccine refrigerator and minimum/maximum thermometer. This form will be posted to the AHS Influenza Immunization website in early fall 2019.
- Based on the Public Health Act, *Immunization Regulation* and the updated Alberta Vaccine Storage and Handling Policy for Provincially Funded Vaccine it is a requirement for AHS to ensure vaccines are distributed to community providers as per policy requirements. For more information on Vaccine Storage and Handling see: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/alberta-vaccine-cold-chain-policy> and <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page14001.aspx>

Reminder: Final Report

The Final Report for the 2018-2019 Influenza Immunization Program is due **Thursday April 11, 2019**. It is important to account for all influenza vaccine doses that your clinic/site ordered as this will affect the number of doses you will be able to order for next year.

Zone Contacts

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