

# Influenza Immunization Program Update

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## Influenza Program Update

Alberta's Influenza Immunization Program provides publicly funded influenza vaccine for all individuals 6 months and older who live, work or attend school in Alberta.

The Influenza immunization Program for 2019-2020 is well underway. As of **February 8, 2020**: 1,381,504 doses of influenza vaccine have been administered in Alberta.

Influenza data for the 2019-2020 season is reported on a weekly basis. Data includes: 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. Community providers can find this information on the Alberta Health Services (AHS) website:

[http://public.tableau.com/views/AlbertaHealthServicesRespiratoryVirusSurveillance/Summary?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](http://public.tableau.com/views/AlbertaHealthServicesRespiratoryVirusSurveillance/Summary?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

As of February 8, 2020:

- Alberta Health Services Public Health have provided 289,162 doses
- Community Pharmacists have provided 860,272 doses
- Other Providers (which include Alberta Health Services Non-Public Health sites, Long Term Care sites, Community Physicians, Alberta Health Services Workplace Health and Safety, Covenant Health Occupational Health and Safety and First Nation Inuit Health Branch) have provided 232,070 doses

## Remaining Doses of Influenza Vaccine

The zone contacts have been receiving many calls asking what to do with "left over" influenza vaccine. The influenza program does not end until March 31, 2020. Please keep vaccine in cold chain and available for clients and patients. Further direction will be provided in the next program update or disposal at the end of the program.

## Public Health Immunization Regulation Update

As of January 1, 2021, this Regulation will require health practitioners to ensure a report respecting immunizations and assessments is electronically submitted to Alberta Health within 7 days. Of note, retroactive reporting will be accepted but is not required unless a new immunization assessment is completed.

One of the options that Alberta Health is working on is a standalone mechanism that will facilitate the electronic submission of the immunization and assessment event information from health practitioners to the provincial immunization repository (Imm/ARI) through a web browser (web application).

For more information regarding how health practitioners can meet the requirements set out in the Immunization Regulation, please refer to the documents which can be found at the following link <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-immunization-policy.aspx>

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