

# Provincial Partner Oversight Team News

Fall 2024

## New Admission? New Opportunity for Health Education

When a new resident is admitted, it is an excellent opportunity for them to learn about their new environment. This can include understanding their immunization status. During intake, assess the new resident's immunization records for Influenza, COVID-19, RSV and Pneumococcal to ensure they are up to date. Obtain informed consent and offer immunization as needed.

Congregate care environments may have a higher risk of communicable disease transmission, such as influenza and COVID-19, because there are many shared spaces. [Covering your cough](#) and handwashing go a long way to reduce the spread of infectious agents.

Residents or staff may be infectious 1-2 days **before** symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days **after** becoming sick. It is best to stay away from others when feeling unwell.

## Immunization Reminders

The person who is immunizing is responsible for the [Fit to Immunize](#) assessment and immunization data entry as per the [Public Health Act Immunization Regulation](#).



## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine

- RSV is a common respiratory virus. RSV season in Canada usually coincides with the influenza season—it starts in the late fall and lasts until spring.
- Starting **October 21**, provincially-funded RSV vaccine will be available for residents who are 60 years of age and older, residing in continuing care homes and senior supportive living accommodations.
- During the respiratory season, the following schedule is recommended. Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are the priority and given first, with RSV vaccine following **at least two weeks later**.
- Space other vaccines, including pneumococcal, **at least 6 weeks before or after** receiving RSV vaccine.
- Learn more about the RSV program at [Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Immunization | Alberta Health Services](#).

## Contact Us

Email: [congregatelivingimmsupport@ahs.ca](mailto:congregatelivingimmsupport@ahs.ca)

Phone: 1-855-444-2324

[Provincial Partner Oversight Team](#)  
[Alberta Outreach Immunization Policy](#)