

Re: Fall 2018-19 Influenza Campaign –Vaccine Ordering & Distribution

Thank you for your participation in the annual influenza immunization campaign.

Influenza is our largest annual immunization program. Each year, the program changes to respond to changing evidence and product availability. This fall we expect changes to the available vaccine products available and a further increase in the number of Community Immunizers. We also expect that, as previously, we will not receive all vaccines at the same time.

To provide vaccines to you and your patients as early as possible, we will continue with vaccine distribution as we did last season, and as outlined below:

- a) **There is no need to place an order in advance of the flu season.**
- b) A ‘start-up supply’ of influenza vaccine will be provided to you in late-September or early-October as soon as supplies become available.
- c) The quantity of vaccine in the ‘start-up supply’ will be based on available vaccine supply and your utilization over the past season. Vaccine distribution timing depends on batch arrivals. We plan to distribute as soon as vaccine is received.
- d) If you expect to use significantly more or less vaccine than last year, please do let us know.
- e) Subsequent to the distribution of the ‘start-up supply’, you will be able to place regular orders with your local public health unit based on the vaccine demand in your office.
- f) Your local Community Health Office will provide ongoing vaccine availability and distribution updates.

After the initial ‘start-up supply’, please order based on the actual demand in your office rather than use in prior seasons. Please note, although some specific product arrivals have been delayed, we have never run-out of influenza vaccine and we intend to fully meet your and your patients’ needs.

In the 2018/19 influenza season, publicly funded influenza vaccine will again be available to:

a) Children 6 to 59 months old	c) Those from 5 yrs to 64 yrs having qualifying medical conditions
b) Adults 65 yrs of age and older	d) Household members of the above
	e) Community Essential Service Providers (e.g. Fire Fighters, Police, etc)

Client Age Category vs. Influenza Product(s) Expected for this Fall’s Campaign

<u>AGES</u>	<u>PRODUCT</u>	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Children 6 mos – 23 mon	Quadrivalent: Flulaval-tetra	
Children 24 mos- 18 yrs	Quadrivalent: Flulaval-tetra, Flumist	Trivalent: Fluviral, Influvac (*see below)
Adults 19+	Trivalent: Fluviral,	

***Please note: Influvac indication is for children age 3 yrs – 18 years**

Thank you,

Wendy DiPalma
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Vancouver Coastal Health