

<b>2025–2026 Campaign</b>	<b>VCH Quick Reference for Publicly Funded Seasonal Influenza Vaccines</b> A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus      A/Croatia/10136RV/2023 (H3N2)-like virus (NEW) B/Austria/1359417/2021-like virus			
<b>Available Vaccines</b>	<b>General Population</b>		<b>Children and Youth</b>	<b>65 years and older only</b>
	<b>FLUVIRAL®</b> Inactivated – Trivalent (TIIV)	<b>FLUZONE®</b> Inactivated – Trivalent (TIIV)	<b>FLUMIST®</b> Live Attenuated-influenza- Trivalent (LAIV)	<b>FLUAD®</b> Inactivated Adjuvanted -Trivalent (TIIV)
<b>Intended Population</b>	<b>6 months and older*</b>		<b>2 years to 17 years**</b>	<b>65 years of age and older***</b>
<b>Alternative Products and Interchangeability</b>	<b>DO NOT MISS AN IMMUNIZATION OPPORTUNITY</b> <i>When a preferred product is not available, please use an appropriate alternate product</i>			
<b>Dosage, Route, &amp; Product Presentation</b>	<b>0.5mL</b> Intramuscular injection Multi dose vial	<b>0.5mL</b> Intramuscular injection Multi dose vial or Pre-filled syringe	<b>0.2mL (0.1ml each nostril)</b> Intranasal Single dose	<b>0.5ml</b> Intramuscular injection; pre-filled syringe
<b>Expiry &amp; Handling</b> <i>Store between: +2°C to +8°C</i> <i>Protect from light</i>	Date multi dose after first puncture. <b>Product expires 28 days after this date.</b>	Multi-dose vial. <b>May use up to expiry date.</b>	Pre-filled sprayer; single dose.	Pre-filled syringe; single dose
<b>Potential Allergens****</b> <i>No latex in any product</i>	Egg protein, polysorbate 80, thimerosal	Egg protein, thimerosal (in multi-dose only)	Ovalbumin, gelatin hydrolysate, gentamicin, arginine hydrochloride	Ovalbumin, polysorbate 80, neomycin, kanamycin, hydrocortisone.
<b>Contraindications</b>	<b>Applies to all influenza vaccines:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants less than 6 months of age</li> <li>• History of anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of influenza vaccine or any vaccine component</li> <li>• History of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 8 weeks receipt of a previous dose of influenza vaccine</li> </ul>		<b>Additional contraindications to Flumist:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe asthma or active wheezing (on high dose inhaled or oral steroids or medically attended wheezing in the 7 days prior to vaccination)</li> <li>• Immunocompromising conditions or medications</li> <li>• HCWs working with immunocompromised individuals</li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> <li>• Individuals 2-17 years of age receiving aspirin-containing therapy.</li> <li>• Individuals taking oseltamivir or zanamivir</li> </ul>	

\*Infants and Children 6 months to 8 years of age (inclusive) receiving flu vaccine for the first time require: 2 doses; given 4 weeks apart. Preferable to use the same vaccine for both doses.

\*\* Approved for adults 18-59 year who have needle phobia and are unwilling to get another influenza vaccine; TIIV provides better protection against influenza than LAIV for this age group.

\*\*\* Provided for individuals 65 years of age and older. Fluzone® HD, another influenza vaccine for seniors, is available for private purchase at VCH Travel Clinic (604-736-9244) and select pharmacies.

\*\*\*\* A history of egg allergy including anaphylaxis following egg ingestion is no longer a contraindication or precaution to receiving inactivated or live influenza vaccines [BCCDC Resource on Egg allergic individuals](#)

\*\*\*\*\* Due to the absence of stability data for pre-drawn Influenza vials, pre-drawing of Influenza vaccines is not recommended.

Publicly Funded Eligibility

Influenza vaccine is recommended for everybody, and is **provided free for all BC residents ≥ 6 months of age**. In particular, it should be offered to:

1. People at high risk		2. People capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People ≥ 65 years of age</li><li>• Healthy children 6 to 59 months of age</li><li>• Pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy during influenza season</li><li>• Indigenous people</li><li>• Morbidly obese adults and children</li><li>• Residents of long-term care facilities</li><li>• Inmates of provincial correctional institutions</li><li>• People who work closely with poultry, dairy &amp; swine industry</li></ul>	People with the following health conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cardiac or pulmonary disorders</li><li>• Diabetes, metabolic diseases</li><li>• Cancer, immunodeficiency, immunosuppression</li><li>• Chronic kidney disease</li><li>• Chronic liver disease</li><li>• Anemia and hemoglobinopathy</li><li>• Conditions at increased risk of aspiration (e.g., cognitive dysfunction, spinal cord injury, seizure disorder, &amp; neuromuscular disorders)</li><li>• Children and adolescents (6 months to 18 years of age) with conditions that are treated for long periods with acetylsalicylic acid</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health care workers (including all health authority staff, accredited physicians and residents, volunteers, students, contractors, and vendors)</li><li>• Visitors to health care facilities, patient care locations</li><li>• Household contacts (including children) of people at high risk whether or not those high-risk people have been immunized</li><li>• Those who provide care or service in potential outbreak settings that house high risk persons (e.g., crew working on cruise ships)</li><li>• Household contacts and those providing regular childcare in/out of home for healthy children 0 to 59 months of age</li><li>• Visitors to a health care facility and other patient locations</li></ul>	
		3. People who provide essential community services	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First responders: police, fire fighters, ambulance</li><li>• Corrections workers</li></ul>	
		4. Other	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anyone else who wishes to reduce their risk of Influenza</li></ul>	

Other Influenza Program Information	
Pregnancy	All inactivated influenza vaccines are safe and recommended in all stages of pregnancy.
VCH Health Care Worker Influenza Control Policy	All health care workers (employed by a health authority, working at health authority facility, or working for an agency funded by a health authority) who provide patient care or work in a patient care location will be required to be immunized or wear a procedure mask for the duration of the influenza season (typically Dec 1-March 31).
Preferred Use and Alternates	A number of influenza vaccine products are available and product use is recommended by age. Alternates have been listed when preferred product is not available from VCH. Please do not miss an immunization opportunity: when a client presents and the preferred product is not available, please use an alternate influenza vaccine product to immunize them.