



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



Influenza Vaccine Now Available for High-Risk Individuals

The **Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV)**, **High-Dose Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV-HD)** and **Adjuvanted Trivalent Inactivated (TIV-adj)** vaccines can now be ordered for individuals at high-risk. **Influenza vaccine will be available to order for healthcare providers (HCPs) beginning on October 1, 2021.** The influenza vaccine order form is available through www.durham.ca/hcp.

These include:

- 1. Individuals at high-risk of influenza-related complications or who are more likely to require hospitalization:**
 - All pregnant women
 - People who are residents of nursing homes or other chronic care facilities
 - People ≥ 65 years of age
 - All children 6 to 59 months of age
 - Indigenous peoples
 - Adults or children 6 months of age and over with chronic health conditions:
 - cardiac or pulmonary disorders
 - diabetes mellitus or other metabolic disease
 - cancer
 - conditions or taking medication which compromise the immune system
 - renal disease
 - anemia or hemoglobinopathy
 - neurologic or neurodevelopmental conditions
 - morbid obesity (body mass index of ≥ 40)
 - children and adolescents (6 months to 18 years) undergoing treatment with acetylsalicylic acid for long periods
- 2. Individuals capable of transmitting influenza to those in #1 and/or to infants < 6 months:**
 - Health care workers and other care providers in facilities and community settings.

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



Publicly Funded Influenza Vaccines for Durham Region (2021/2022)

| | Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV) | | |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Vaccine product | FluLaval Tetra | Fluzone® Quadrivalent | Flucelvax® Quad |
| Micrograms of haemagglutinin | 15 µg | 15 µg | 15 µg |
| Dose | 0.5 ml | 0.5 ml | 0.5 ml |
| Route | Intramuscular injection | Intramuscular injection | Intramuscular injection |
| Age indication | ≥ 6 months | ≥ 6 months | ≥ 2 years |
| Most common allergens | Egg protein* Thimerosal** | Egg protein* Thimerosal** | Does NOT contain egg protein or thimerosal |

| | High-Dose Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (HD -QIV) | Adjuvanted Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine (HD -QIV) |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Vaccine product | Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent | Fluad® |
| Micrograms of haemagglutinin | 60 µg | 15 µg |
| Dose | 0.7 ml | 0.5 ml |
| Route | Intramuscular injection | Intramuscular injection |
| Age indication | ≥ 65 years | ≥ 65 years |
| Most common allergens | Egg protein* | Egg protein* Kanamycin Neomycin |

*NACI indicates that egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using the full dose of any appropriate product, including High-Dose TIV **Thimerosal present in multidose vials

New This Year!

- Fluad® (TIV-adj) and Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent (HD-QIV) are new products available for ≥ 65 years of age and older
- TIV-adj is a trivalent vaccine which protects against three influenza viruses. The adjuvant is designed to improve the immune response to the vaccine.
- Fluzone® Quadrivalent (QIV) and Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent are **different** products. HD-QIV contains a higher antigen content for all four strains. Use caution when administering Fluzone® products to ensure that the right vaccine is being administered to the right person.

- NACI recommends that COVID-19 vaccines may be given at the same time as, or any time before or after, other vaccines, including live, non-live, adjuvanted, and non-adjuvanted vaccines.
- Plan large immunization clinics in November to ensure there is enough vaccine to order. If held earlier (i.e. October), there is risk of having to wait for additional vaccine due to decreased supply.
- Pharmacies participating in the Universal Influenza Immunization Program can administer influenza vaccine to individuals 2 years of age and over. Influenza vaccine will be available at local pharmacies to support accessibility.

Do not delay vaccination to wait for a particular product. The QIV, QIV-HD and TIV-adj all protect against the flu, and the most important thing is for eligible individuals to be vaccinated. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) states that any of the available age-appropriate influenza vaccines should be used. There is no preferential recommendation for the use of QIV-HD versus TIV-adj vaccine for the 65+ age group.

The Durham Region Health Department has a **limited supply of High-Dose Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (HD-QIV) and TIV-adj** for distribution to health care providers. The Ministry of Health is providing the vaccine to pharmacies to ensure both health care providers and pharmacies have stock available. If the HD-QIV or TIV-adj is unavailable due to reduced supply, individuals should receive QIV or obtain the HD-QIV or TIV-adj at a local pharmacy. A list of Durham Region pharmacies participating in the Universal Influenza Immunization Program is available at durham.ca/flu.

As per the Ministry of Health, doses will be **allocated to sites based on usage from the 2020/2021 Influenza season**. Orders **may be reduced or substituted** due to stock availability.

Submit your completed order form and your temperature logs from the date of previous vaccine order (or 7 days if participating in the Universal Influenza Immunization Program). Keep in mind the **size of your fridge** and ensure to maintain no more than **one-month supply of vaccine** when placing an order.

Health care providers will be contacted directly by Durham Region Health Department and notified when their influenza vaccine order is available to be picked up.

When **picking up a vaccine order, call Health Reception and advise of your arrival**; COVID-19 screening is mandatory prior to receiving all vaccine orders. Influenza vaccine is only available for pick up at our **Whitby** location.

Health Reception (West Doors): 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby. Phone: 905-668-7711 ext. 3131

For further information about the 2021/2022 influenza season, please visit the Ministry of Health website at ontario.ca/influenza

October 1, 2021

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