

Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program 2017-18 Publicly-Funded Influenza Vaccine Distribution

The official starting date of the Ministry's 2017-18 Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program is October 23, 2017.

The publicly funded vaccine products provided to participating pharmacies in Saskatchewan and Lloydminster, Alberta under the Program are:

- FluLaval® Tetra multidose vials (DIN 02420783); and
- Fluzone® Quadrivalent multidose vials (DIN 02432730).

The cost of the vaccine and its distribution is paid by the Ministry.

In June 2017, the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) asked pharmacies to register for participation in the 2017-18 Program. A list of registered pharmacies has been provided to the two Saskatchewan wholesalers—McKesson Canada and Kohl & Frisch Ltd.

The order numbers for the publicly-funded vaccines multidose vials are:

Vaccine	DIN	Order Numbers		Available for distribution at Program start date?
		McKesson Canada	Kohl & Frisch Ltd.	
FluLaval® Tetra	02420783	102005	158636	No
Fluzone® Quadrivalent	02432730	114874	158646	Yes

Pharmacies will order the vaccine directly from the participating wholesaler that is their primary supplier or with whom they have an existing account. Pharmacies can order the vaccine through their usual ordering process and can expect next day delivery in the same pattern they currently receive their regular orders from their wholesaler. **Pharmacies will not be able to order vaccine from both wholesalers.**

The daily order maximum is 10 units = 100 doses. The amount of vaccine ordered must reflect realistic anticipated demand. Each week, DPEBB will compare vaccine doses distributed to each pharmacy with the vaccine doses administered by that pharmacy to prevent stockpiling of the vaccine. Stockpiling prevents vaccine from being available when needed by all vaccine providers across the Province.

It is anticipated pre-booked orders will start shipping the week of October 16, 2017.

Note: pharmacists cannot administer publicly funded influenza vaccine before the official starting date of the Program, October 23, 2017.

The availability of vaccine, particularly at the start of the 2017-18 campaign, may be impacted if the vaccine manufacturers do not provide the amount ordered by the Program on the scheduled shipping dates. As a result, there may be some delays in supplying the total amount of vaccine requested by pharmacies.

Pharmacies **cannot** use publicly-funded vaccine provided under the Provincial Program to immunize individuals outside of a pharmacy.

Pharmacies can confirm they are on the list of registered pharmacies by checking the list posted on:

- the “Influenza Immunization Program” tab on the online Formulary <http://formulary.drugplan.ehealthsask.ca/InfluenzaProgram.aspx> , or
- the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan website under the Patient’s tab <https://www.skpharmacists.ca/patients/flu-shots>.

Who to Contact

For questions related to **DAILY ORDER LIMITS**, including ordering vaccine quantities in excess of the daily limits for an influenza immunization clinic at a pharmacy, contact DPEBB at 1-800-667-7581 or in Regina at 306-787-3317.

For questions related to **REGISTRATION OF A PHARMACY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM**, contact DPEBB at 1-800-667-7581 or in Regina at 306-787-3317.

For questions related to **ORDERING AND SHIPPING OF PUBLICLY-FUNDED INFLUENZA VACCINE**, contact the order desk at the Wholesaler used by the pharmacy.

- McKesson Canada Order Desk: 1-800-667-9299.
- Kohl & Frisch Ltd Order Desk: 1-800-821-8777.