

Executive Officer Notice: Administering the Flu Vaccine to Children Age 2 and older under the Universal Influenza Immunization Program 2020/21

Effective, December 11, 2020, pharmacists may administer the influenza vaccine by injection to children as young as two years of age.

Regulation changes¹ have been made to authorize pharmacists to administer the influenza vaccine by injection to a patient who is two years of age or older in accordance with Ontario's Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) as described on the Ministry's website. Prior to this change, the age restriction was 5 years and older.

Children age 2 years and older will be eligible to receive the influenza vaccine administered by a pharmacist subject to the availability of age-appropriate vaccines for the 2020/21 influenza season under the UIIP. (Refer to Table 1 below for the updated list of vaccines)

Participating pharmacists must have the necessary training, as required by the Ontario College of Pharmacists (OCP) to ensure competency and pharmacies must be enrolled in the ministry's UIIP and have a 2020/21 UIIP agreement with the ministry.

Pharmacy students and interns registered with the OCP who have valid injection training may administer the influenza vaccine; however, the respective injection-trained supervising pharmacist must submit the claim for payment through the ministry's Health Network System. The claim submissions process and documentation requirements remain the same.

Please contact the OCP and the Ontario Pharmacists Association for questions relating to scope of practice and optional continuing education courses to support pharmacists, pharmacy students and interns in administering the influenza vaccine to children.

A summary of the influenza vaccines for the UIIP 2020/21 season with age criteria is provided in Table 1. This information is in follow-up to earlier Executive Officer Notices for the 2020/21 UIIP:

- [Notice from the Executive Officer: Pharmacist administration of publicly funded influenza vaccines and claims submission using the Health Network System](#) that was published on the ministry website on October 2, 2020,

¹ Ontario Regulation 742/20 amending O. Reg. 202/94 (General) made under the *Pharmacy Act, 1991*

- [Notice from the Executive Officer: Updates to Pharmacists Administering Flu Vaccine to Patients without a Health Card Number](#) published on October 26, 2020,
- [Executive Officer Notice: Addition of FluMist® Flu Vaccine to the Universal Influenza Immunization Program](#) published on November 30, 2020 and
- [Executive Officer Notice: Addition of Fluarix® Flu Vaccine to the Universal Influenza Immunization Program](#) published on December 7, 2020.

Table 1: UPDATED List of the Publicly Funded Influenza Vaccines for UIIP 2020/21

DIN PIN	Influenza Product For 2020/21	Availability	Eligibility
02420783	FluLaval Tetra GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine)	Intramuscular injection. 15 mcg/0.5mL; multi-dose vial	2 years of age and older
02432730	Fluzone® Quadrivalent Sanofi Pasteur Limited (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine)	Intramuscular injection. 15 mcg/0.5mL; multi-dose vial	2 years of age and older
02420643	Fluzone® Quadrivalent Sanofi Pasteur Limited (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine)	Intramuscular injection. 15 mcg/0.5mL; single dose, pre-filled syringe	2 years of age and older
02494248	Flucelvax® Quad Seqirus Limited (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine)	Intramuscular injection. 15 mcg/0.5mL; single dose, pre-filled syringe	9 years of age and older
02445646	Fluzone® High-Dose Sanofi Pasteur Limited (High-dose trivalent influenza vaccine)	Intramuscular injection. 60 mcg /0.5 mL; single dose, pre-filled syringe	65 years of age and older
09857645	FluMist® (US product) AstraZeneca (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine)	Intranasal* spray. 10 FFU/0.2 mL; single dose, pre-filled spray	2 to 59 years of age
09857646	Influsplit Tetra (Fluarix®) (German product) GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine)	Intramuscular injection. 15 mcg/0.5mL; single dose, pre-filled syringe	2 years of age and older

* Note: Intranasal administration will require pharmacists to wear gloves.

Pharmacies with a UIIP agreement may order PPE for the administration of the publicly funded flu vaccine, by accessing the Remedy online intake form at this link:

<https://ehealthontario.on.ca/en/health-care-professionals/ppe-intake?a=ppe-intake>

- Pharmacies that belong to a banner or chain corporation should work through their corporate head office, who may centrally coordinate order and facilitate distribution.

- Independent pharmacies may order directly from the website.

Additional Information:

For pharmacies:

For billing inquiries, please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

For vaccine supply information, please email UIIP.MOH@ontario.ca

For scope of practice information, please contact the OCP: OCPIInfo.com – Ontario College of Pharmacists

For all other Health Care Providers and the Public:

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282