

Health

Public Health and Primary Health Care
Communicable Disease Control
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October 31, 2012

Dear Health Care Provider:

Re: *Voluntary Suspension of Flu Vaccine (Agriflu[®] and Fluad[®]) Lifted*

The Public Health Agency of Canada and Manitoba Health are advising health care providers in possession of Agriflu[®] to immediately start using the vaccine again:

- Health Canada has completed its review of safety information for Agriflu[®] and Fluad[®] and is releasing the two seasonal flu vaccines for immediate use. Note Fluad[®] is not currently part of Manitoba's Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program.
- Health Canada examined the results of its own testing, conducted a health risk assessment, and reviewed information from its European partners and data submitted by Novartis in making its decision. None of the information reviewed indicated a safety issue.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada and Manitoba Health closely monitor for vaccine-related adverse events to detect potential safety issues in a timely manner. To date, no reports of serious or unexpected adverse events related to the Agriflu[®] vaccine have been reported.

Manitoba Health wants to assure providers that flu vaccines available for use in Manitoba are safe, effective and are the best way to protect against influenza. *Get the shot, not the flu! Protect yourself. Protect your friends and family.*

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility or clinic.

Sincerely,

"Original Signed By"

Tim Hilderman, MD FRCPC
Medical Lead, Vaccines
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