



Health, Healthy Living and Seniors

300 Carlton St, Winnipeg, MB R3B 3M9

T 204 788-6737 F 204 948-2040

www.manitoba.ca

October 9, 2014

Dear Health Care Provider:

RE: 2014-15 Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program - Update

Each manufacturer responsible for providing flu vaccine to Canada has experienced production delays affecting delivery of the 2014-15 flu vaccine to Canada. Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors (MHLS) has worked with its federal, provincial and territorial partners to ensure Manitoba will receive its entire flu vaccine order, allowing for the highest population coverage in Manitoba since the universal program was launched. Orders are being processed based on indicated clinic date(s) on the order form and supply availability (per Sept. 11th 2014 bulletin); existing orders without an indicated clinic date will be processed according to the date received.

Due to delays at AstraZeneca, Manitoba will be supplying **FluMist® Quadrivalent (QLAIV)** to providers instead of **FluMist® Trivalent (TLAIV)**. The two products are equivalent in every way except FluMist® Quadrivalent protects against an additional influenza B strain. The safety and effectiveness of both TLAIV and QLAIV are equivalent and MHLS continues to recommend that healthy children between 2 and 17 years get immunized with FluMist® (either TLAIV or QLAIV).

Please be advised that Manitoba's hardcopy public resources (e.g. LAIV factsheet) that are shipped from the warehouse will not be updated to reflect the above changes. All online resources will include an addendum at the beginning of the document(s), outlining the above changes.

For data entry into the provincial immunization registry, all health care providers should use **tariff 8969** for all FluMist® doses administered (for both QLAIV and TLAIV). Please note, the DIN for FluMist® Quadrivalent is 02426544, should you require it.

The full **product monograph for FluMist® Quadrivalent** is available on AstraZeneca's website at www.astrazeneca.ca.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Richard Baydack, PhD
Director, Communicable Disease Control

Original signed by

Tim Hilderman, MD FRCPC
Medical Lead, Communicable Disease Control