



Health, Healthy Living and Seniors
Public Health and Primary Health Care Division
Communicable Disease Control
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Dear Health Care Provider:

Manitoba's 2015-16 Universal Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program

Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors (MHLS) will continue to offer a Universal Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program for the 2015-16 season. All Manitobans over 6 months of age will be eligible to receive the seasonal influenza vaccine free-of-charge. Health care providers are encouraged to offer seasonal influenza vaccine to all Manitobans at every opportunity.

Manitoba will have two seasonal influenza vaccines available this year as part of the provincial universal program, including Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (QIV), an inactivated influenza vaccine protecting Manitobans against 4 strains of influenza (2 strains of influenza A and 2 strains of influenza B). MHLS will also have FluMist® Quadrivalent, the live attenuated intranasal vaccine that can be offered to healthy children and adolescents 2 to 17 years of age.

Please go online (www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/manual/docs/msiipp.pdf) to access this year's interim "Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program Plan 2015-16" for more information about important program dates, ordering and distribution, eligibility criteria, national and provincial recommendations, vaccine products, documentation and communication details.

Further information regarding ordering influenza vaccine and accompanying resources will be shared in the fall.

REMINDER: PLEASE RETURN ALL EXPIRED VACCINES TO THE PROVINCIAL VACCINE WAREHOUSE IN A TIMELY MANNER

- All vaccines, including influenza vaccine must be returned as soon as possible following expiry for proper disposal and potential cost recovery.
- Along with your returned vaccines, please complete and include the *Return Form* found in *The Immunizing Agents and Biologics Return Policy & Procedure* available at: www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/docs/vbrpp.pdf.
- For questions regarding the return of product, please contact the Provincial Vaccine Warehouse at 204-948-1333 (toll free 1-855-683-3306) or by e-mail (vacmda@gov.mb.ca).

Sincerely,

"Original Signed By"

Richard Baydack, PhD
Director, Communicable Disease Control

"Original Signed By"

Tim Hilderman, MD FRCP
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