

2023–2024 Campaign	VCH Quick Reference for Publicly Funded Seasonal Influenza Vaccines					
	A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (NEW strain this year)		B/Austria/1359417/2021-like virus (B/Victoria lineage)			B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage) (in quadrivalent vaccines only)
Available Vaccines	General Population		Children and Youth	65 years and older only		
	FLULAVAL® TETRA (Inactivated – QIV)	FLUZONE® QUAD (Inactivated – QIV)	FLUMIST® QUADRIVALENT (Live-attenuated-influenza LAIV-Q)	FLUAD® TRIVALENT (Inactivated Adjuvanted – TIIV)	FLUZONE® HD QUAD*** (Inactivated – high dose QIV)	
Intended Population	6 months and older*		2 years to 17 years**	65 years of age and older		
Alternative Products and Interchangeability	DO NOT MISS AN IMMUNIZATION OPPORTUNITY <i>When a preferred product is not available, please use an appropriate alternate product</i>					
Dosage, Route, & Product Presentation	0.5mL Intramuscular injection; Multi dose vial	0.5mL Intramuscular injection Multi dose vial or Pre-filled syringe	0.2mL (0.1ml each nostril) Intranasal Single dose	0.5ml Intramuscular injection; pre-filled syringe	0.7 mL Intramuscular injection Pre-filled syringe	
Expiry & Handling <i>Store between: +2°C to +8°C Protect from light</i>	Date multi dose after first puncture. Product expires 28 days after this date.	Multi-dose vial. May use up to expiry date.	Pre-filled sprayer; single dose.	Pre-filled syringe; single dose	Pre-filled syringe; single dose	
Potential Allergens**** <i>No latex in any product</i>	Egg protein, polysorbate 80, thimerosal	Egg protein, thimerosal (in multi-dose only)	Ovalbumin, gelatin hydrolysate, gentamicin, arginine hydrochloride	Ovalbumin, polysorbate 80, neomycin, kanamycin, hydrocortisone.	Ovalbumin.	
Contraindications	<b>Applies to all influenza vaccines:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants less than 6 months of age</li> <li>• History of anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of influenza vaccine or any vaccine component</li> <li>• History of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 8 weeks receipt of a previous dose of influenza vaccine</li> <li>• Receipt of CTLA-4 inhibitor for treatment of cancer</li> </ul>		<b>Additional contraindications to Flumist:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe asthma or active wheezing</li> <li>• Immunocompromising conditions or medications</li> <li>• HCWs working with immunocompromised individuals</li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> <li>• Individuals 2-17 years of age receiving aspirin-containing therapy.</li> </ul>			

\*Infants and Children 6 months to 8 years of age (inclusive) receiving flu vaccine for the first time require: 2 doses; given 4 weeks apart.

\*\* Approved for adults 18-59 year, however not publicly funded; QIV provides better protection for this age group.

\*\*\* Provided for residents 65 years of age and older living in LTC, AL facilities and First Nations communities. Private purchase available at select pharmacies or travel clinics for community dwelling seniors.

\*\*\*\* A history of egg allergy including anaphylaxis following egg ingestion is no longer a contraindication or precaution to receiving inactivated or live influenza vaccines [BCCDC Resource on Egg allergic individuals](#)

## Publicly Funded Eligibility

VCH CDC November 2023

Influenza vaccine is recommended for everybody, and is **provided free for all BC residents ≥ 6 months of age**. In particular, it should be offered to:

<p><b>1. People at high risk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People ≥ 65 years of age</li> <li>• Healthy children 6 to 59 months of age</li> <li>• Pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy during influenza season</li> <li>• Indigenous people</li> <li>• Morbidly obese adults and children</li> <li>• Residents of long-term care facilities</li> <li>• Inmates of provincial correctional institutions</li> <li>• People working with live poultry</li> </ul> <p>People with the following health conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiac or pulmonary disorders</li> <li>• Diabetes, metabolic diseases</li> <li>• Cancer, immunodeficiency, immunosuppression</li> <li>• Chronic kidney disease</li> <li>• Chronic liver disease</li> <li>• Anemia and hemoglobinopathy</li> <li>• Conditions at increased risk of aspiration (e.g., cognitive dysfunction, spinal cord injury, seizure disorder, &amp; neuromuscular disorders)</li> <li>• Children and adolescents (6 months to 18 years of age) with conditions that are treated for long periods with acetylsalicylic acid</li> </ul>	<p><b>2. People capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health care workers (including all health authority staff, accredited physicians and residents, volunteers, students, contractors, and vendors)</li> <li>• Visitors to health care facilities, patient care locations</li> <li>• Household contacts (including children) of people at high risk whether or not those high-risk people have been immunized</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those who provide care or service in potential outbreak settings that house high risk persons (e.g., crew working on cruise ships)</li> <li>• Household contacts and those providing regular childcare in/out of home for healthy children 0 to 59 months of age</li> <li>• Visitors to a health care facility and other patient locations</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. People who provide essential community services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First responders: police, fire fighters, ambulance</li> <li>• Corrections workers</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4. Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone else who wishes to reduce their risk of Influenza</li> </ul>	

<b>Other Influenza Program Information</b>	
<b>Pregnancy</b>	All inactivated influenza vaccines are safe and recommended in all stages of pregnancy.
<b>VCH Health Care Worker Influenza Control Policy</b>	<p>All health care workers (employed by a health authority, working at a health authority facility, or working for an agency funded by a health authority) who provide patient care or work in a patient care location will be required to be immunized or wear a procedure mask for the duration of the influenza season (typically Dec 1-March 31).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For all health care workers, please complete the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immunize</li> <li>• Document</li> <li>• Provide a record of immunization</li> </ul>
<b>Preferred Use and Alternates</b>	A number of influenza vaccine products are available and product use is recommended by age. Alternates have been listed when preferred product is not available from VCH. Please do not miss an immunization opportunity: when a client presents and the preferred product is not available, please use an alternate influenza vaccine product to immunize them.