

A REFERENCE GUIDE

FOR ADMINISTERING AND CLAIMING OUTREACH VACCINES 2024/2025

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 26, 2024



GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Alberta Outreach Immunization Program targets individuals at high risk of severe outcomes from vaccine-preventable diseases, such as influenza, COVID-19, and invasive pneumococcal disease. It focuses on residents in senior congregate care settings, who are more vulnerable due to underlying health conditions and limited access to immunization services. To achieve its goals, the program requires a coordinated approach involving collaboration among congregate care staff, Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Indigenous Service Canada, First Nations, and other immunization providers like pharmacies. This collaboration enhances Alberta's ability to protect the health of those in senior congregate care settings.

The goals of the Alberta Outreach Immunization Program:

- Prevent severe outcomes due to vaccine preventable disease in individuals living in seniors congregate care settings;
- Reduce outbreaks in senior congregate care settings; and
- Achieve an 80% immunization rate for influenza and COVID-19 vaccines for individuals living in senior congregate care settings.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

The Alberta Outreach Immunization Program includes residents and staff of senior congregate care settings **with capacity for 10 or more residents** as per the three **definitions** below:

Highest Risk Congregate Care Settings with capacity for 10 or more residents

1. Continuing Care Home Type A (formerly Long-term Care [LTC]) is a type of continuing care accommodation for individuals with complex health needs who are unable to remain safely at home or in a supportive living accommodation. Continuing Care Home (CCH) Type A facilities include auxiliary hospitals and nursing homes. CCH Type A health care services are publicly funded, and facilities are operated either directly by Alberta Health Services or by contracted care providers. In CCH Type A, residents receive accommodation, meals, and access to 24-hour on-site professional nursing and personal care.
2. Continuing Care Home Type B (formerly known as Designated Supportive Living [DSL]) are types of supportive living accommodation that provide meals, some health supports and allow residents to live independently in a home-like environment. CCH Type B residents receive 24-hour on-site scheduled and unscheduled health care, personal care and support services from health care aides and/or licensed practical nurses (LPN). CCH Type B can be in facilities or personal care homes. CCH Type B supports people with health and personal care needs ranging from more stable and predictable to less stable and predictable.
3. Supportive Living Accommodation (SLA) is a type of continuing care accommodation, where people remain as independent as possible in a home-like setting while they have access to services that meet their changing needs (e.g. meals, housekeeping). SLA includes facilities where spaces are accessed through the site directly and not through an AHS Case Manager. SLA facilities are licensed under the Supportive Living Accommodations and Licensing Act (SLALA). SLA can also be known as Seniors Lodges or Assisted Living facilities and may include other facilities that identify themselves as Independent Living. Additionally, to be included in the Alberta Outreach Immunization Program, the following criteria must be met by SLA facilities:
 - Communal dining as an expected part of service for residents,
 - A senior's population age 65+ (Note that residents less than 65 years of age would be included).

For more information please refer to the [Alberta Outreach Immunization Program](#).

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CLAIMS PROCESS

Pharmacists must submit claims to Alberta Blue Cross within three business days. It can take up to two weeks for the immunization record to be uploaded for viewing in Netcare. Please contact Netcare at 1-855-643-8649 to report issues.

The Outreach Billing code (i.e. \$17 fee) is used:

1. If the individual is a resident of a Type A, Type B, or Type C facility, or be Staff working at that facility; AND
2. Receive the vaccination at the facility (vs. in the pharmacy)

Documentation is required to confirm vaccinations were performed in the Outreach setting. Documentation must include name and address of the facility along with a list of members who received vaccination at that facility, which vaccinations they received and the date they were received (product name and PIN). This is in addition to the standard immunization documentation.

Any individual receiving a vaccine in a community pharmacy is only eligible for the routine billing and corresponding payment (i.e. \$13).

For immunization service claims, the individual's Personal Health Number (PHN) will be used to confirm eligibility. Netcare should be accessed to validate PHNs. Incorrect submission of the client's eligibility will result in claim rejections with the response code **R-32 – Client ID Error**.

For the 2024-2025 program, the following PINs must be used for pharmacist-administered provincially funded Outreach vaccines:

Outreach PINs to be reimbursed at a rate of \$17				
Product	Description	Manufacturer	Reason Code	PIN
Fluzone® High-Dose	FLU-HD (Influenza High Dose)	Sanofi Pasteur	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	13120022
FluLaval® Tetra MDV	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	Glaxo-SmithKline	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	12030022
Fluzone® MDV	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	Sanofi Pasteur	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	12120022
Flucelvax® Quad PFS	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	Seqirus	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	12110022
Prenar 20	PNEU-C20 (Pneumococcal conjugate 20-valent)	Pfizer	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	11100022
Comirnaty® KP.2	COVPBmRNAKP (COVID-19 BNT162b2 – mRNA KP)	Pfizer/BioNTech	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	15090022
SpikeVax KP.2	COVMODmRNAKP (COVID-19 mRNA 1273 - mRNA KP)	Moderna	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	16060022
Abrysvo™ (RSV vaccine)	RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)	Pfizer	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	14100022

All claims must be submitted electronically through the Alberta Blue Cross PRIDE RT claims adjudication system with the following data elements:

- Carrier Code 16 (as the third-party plan).
- Group number for all transactions must be 23464, Section 000.
- Pharmacy license number.
- Pharmacist identification number.
- Client number: client's PHN as the client number.
- Client's full name: last and first name.
- Client's date of birth.
- Client's gender.
- Relationship code: should your software require you to enter a relationship code, zero (0) must be used as the default.
- Prescriber reference ID number (for example, license number of pharmacists with ACP injection authorization).
- Service date.
- PIN/Reason Code.
- Quantity (must be entered as one).
- "86" should be used in the Prescriber Reference Code field.

Charges of up to \$17 per injectable outreach immunization service may be claimed.

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations Contact Centre representative at

Edmonton and area: 780-498-8370

Calgary and area: 403-294-4041

Toll-free: 1-800-361-9632

Fax (Edmonton and area): 780-498-8406

Fax (toll-free): 1-877-305-9911

