

Alberta fall immunization program 2024/2025

As a reminder, the provincially funded fall 2024/2025 immunization program will begin on **October 15, 2024**. Pharmacists may not administer influenza vaccine to the general public (no matter the individual's risk) prior to **October 15, 2024**. For the Outreach Immunization Program, pharmacists can begin the on-site immunization of congregate care facilities' residents and staff as soon as your pharmacy receives influenza and COVID-19 vaccines.

Final pharmacy allocation emails were sent out on September 12 and September 18. If you have not received an allocation email and are participating in the influenza immunization, COVID-19 immunization or the Outreach Immunization Program, please contact health.imm@gov.ab.ca to request your allocation information.

COVID-19 vaccine products

The updated KP.2 vaccine formulations are anticipated to become available in the coming weeks. Both Moderna and Pfizer KP.2 COVID-19 vaccines will be available to pharmacies through their wholesale distributor.

- The Moderna KP.2 vaccine will be available in pharmacies for individuals five years of age and older. Please follow the Alberta Health immunization policies and biological page (<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-immunization-policy>) for the appropriate pediatric and adult dosages.
 - o **NOTE:** Following changes to the duration of thawed vaccine storage time, an *unpunctured* Moderna COVID-19 vial can now be refrigerated (2 to 8 degrees Celsius) for **up to 50 days**, but can now only be stored at room temperature (8 to 25 degrees Celsius) for **up to 12 hours**. For more information, please refer to the *Health Canada product monograph* or the *Alberta vaccine storage and handling for COVID-19 vaccine* policy document (<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/alberta-vaccine-storage-and-handling-for-covid-19-vaccine>)
- Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will be available for individuals 12 years of age and older. There will be no Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine available for those under 12 years of age. Moderna vaccine is the only vaccine available for those under 12 years of age.

Vaccine product information

Product	AVI name	DIN	Manufacturer	Format	Package size
*Flucelvax Quad PFS	Flucelvax® Quad 10 dose/pkg	02494248	Seqirus	PFS	10 doses/pkg
**Fluzone MDV	Fluzone® 10 dose/vial/pkg	02432730	Sanofi	MDV	10 doses/vial/pkg
FluLaval Tetra MDV	FluLaval® Tetra 10 dose/vial/pkg	02420783	GSK	MDV	10 doses/vial/pkg
Fluzone HD	Fluzone® High-Dose QIV 5 dose/pkg	02500523	Sanofi	PFS	5 doses/pkg
COVID-19 Pfizer Adult	Comirnaty® KP.2 6 dose/vial	02541823	Pfizer/ BioNTech	Vial	6 doses/vial 10 vials/pkg
COVID-19 Moderna	SpikeVax KP.2 (2.5 mL) 5 dose/vial	02541270	Moderna	Vial	5 doses/vial 10 vials/pkg

* Flucelvax Quad will be the PFS option for 2024/2025. Fluzone PFS will not be available.

** Fluzone Multidose Vial (MDV) will be the primary standard dose MDV product available; however, vaccine orders will be filled with whichever vaccine is available at the pharmacy wholesale distributor.

continued next page

continued from previous page

REMINDER: Influenza vaccine must be ordered in units, not doses.

- One unit is equal to 10 doses for SD-QIV.
- One unit is equal to 5 doses for HD-QIV.

Please refer to Benefacts 1189 (<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/pharmacy-benefacts/pharmacy-benefact-1189.pdf>) and 1199 (<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/pharmacy-benefacts/pharmacy-benefact-1199.pdf>) for information regarding the following:

- fall immunization program (including the Outreach immunization program),
- high-dose influenza pipeline allocation (pre-order) for the public program,
- the COVID immunization program, and
- the tiered KP.2 COVID-19 maximum order quantity.

Influenza and COVID-19 administration and claims process

For ongoing changes to PINs related to vaccine administration, please see the Alberta Blue Cross® website for the Reference Guide for Pharmacists Billing COVID-19 Vaccinations, Reference Guide for the 2024-2025 Alberta Influenza Immunization Program and the Alberta Health Influenza Antiviral Drug Policy as applied to Vulnerable Populations Living in Congregate Living Settings. Pharmacy teams are encouraged to review these documents for changes to policy for this season, including that for workplace settings. PINs for the 2024/2025 season, including those specific to the Outreach program, are listed in the table below:

Product	Vaccine code	Manufacturer	Reason	PIN
Fluzone® High-Dose	FLU-HD (Influenza High Dose)	SF - Sanofi Pasteur	50 - Routine Recommended	13120050
Fluzone® High-Dose	FLU-HD (Influenza High Dose)	SF - Sanofi Pasteur	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	13120022
FluLaval® Tetra	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	GSK - Glaxo-SmithKline	50 - Routine Recommended	12030050
FluLaval® Tetra	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	GSK - Glaxo-SmithKline	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	12030022
Fluzone® MDV	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	SF - Sanofi Pasteur	50 - Routine Recommended	12120050
Fluzone® MDV	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	SF - Sanofi Pasteur	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	12120022
Flucelvax® Quad	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	SEQ - Seqirus	50 - Routine Recommended	12110050
Flucelvax® Quad	FLU (Influenza Standard Dose)	SEQ - Seqirus	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	12110022
SpikeVax KP.2 (2.5 mL) 5 dose/vial	COVMODmRNAKP (COVID-19 mRNA 1273 - mRNA KP)	Moderna	50 - Routine Recommended	16060050
SpikeVax KP.2 (2.5 mL) 5 dose/vial	COVMODmRNAKP (COVID-19 mRNA 1273 - mRNA KP)	Moderna	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	16060022
SpikeVax KP.2 (2.5 mL) 5 dose/vial	COVMODmRNAKP (COVID-19 mRNA 1273 - mRNA KP)	Moderna	66 - Other Risk	16060066

continued next page

continued from previous page

Product	Vaccine code	Manufacturer	Reason	PIN
Comirnaty® KP.2 6 dose/vial	COVPBmRNAKP (COVID-19 BNT162b2 – mRNA KP)	Pfizer/BioNTech	50 - Routine Recommended	15090050
Comirnaty® KP.2 6 dose/vial	COVPBmRNAKP (COVID-19 BNT162b2 – mRNA KP)	Pfizer/BioNTech	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	15090022
Comirnaty® KP.2 6 dose/vial	COVPBmRNAKP (COVID-19 BNT162b2 – mRNA KP)	Pfizer/BioNTech	66 – Other Risk	15090066
Pevnar 20	PNEU-C20 (Pneumococcal conjugate 20-valent)	Pfizer	50 - Routine Recommended	11100050
Pevnar 20	PNEU-C20 (Pneumococcal conjugate 20-valent)	Pfizer	22 - LTC/DSL Outreach	11100022
Pevnar 20	PNEU-C20 (Pneumococcal conjugate 20-valent)	Pfizer	66 – Other Risk	11100066

Alberta Vaccine Inventory (AVI)

Alberta Health uses the AVI system to manage inventory throughout the province. AVI compliance is mandatory for all publicly funded vaccines, including influenza and COVID-19. Please see the [AVI Responsibilities & Expectations](#) document for more information on pharmacy responsibilities and expectations regarding AVI.

Transfers between pharmacies

Transfers of vaccine doses between pharmacies are permitted for all provincially funded vaccines. **Before proceeding with the vaccine transfer**, please email health.avi@gov.ab.ca to request transfer approval. The receiving pharmacy must be AVI compliant in order for the transfer to be approved. In your transfer request, please include the following details:

- sending pharmacy name,
- receiving pharmacy name,
- vaccine type,
- lot number,
- quantity of doses, and
- anticipated date and time of transfer.

Once Alberta Health approves the transfer, an AVI transfer will be created from the sending pharmacy to the receiving pharmacy. Pharmacies must ensure that vaccines are shipped in a qualified insulated container or vaccine bag able to maintain 2 to 8 degrees Celsius, along with a temperature monitoring device. COVID-19 vaccine needs to be packed in a way to prevent the movement of the vaccine. Please refer to the Alberta Storage and Handling policy for provincially funded vaccines and the Alberta Storage and Handling for COVID-19 vaccines for more information on transport requirements. Both documents can be found on the Alberta Immunization Policy website (<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-immunization-policy>).

Once vaccine is received, please ensure to receive or reject the doses in the AVI transfer as per the [AVI Responsibilities & Expectations guide](#) to remain AVI compliant. For more information on receiving and rejecting a transfer, refer to the [Inventory Reconciliation guide](#).

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

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)
 403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)
 1-800-361-9632 (toll free)
 FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)
 FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php

