

Pharmacist administered publicly funded Seasonal influenza vaccine (2011-12)

The New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program (NBPDP), on behalf of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, manages the claims process for community pharmacies seeking reimbursement for pharmacist administration of publicly funded trivalent influenza vaccine (TIV) to the individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for the Public Health (PH) seasonal influenza program.

VACCINE ELIGIBILITY - PHARMACIST ADMINISTERED TIV

1. Adults and children with chronic health conditions listed below who are known to the pharmacist through regular dispensing of medication to treat such conditions and for whom an up to date patient medication profile is available:
 - cardiac or pulmonary disorders (including bronchopulmonary dysplasia, cystic fibrosis and asthma);
 - diabetes mellitus and other metabolic diseases;
 - cancer, immune compromising conditions (due to underlying disease and/or therapy);
 - renal disease;
 - anemia or hemoglobinopathy;
 - conditions that compromise the management of respiratory secretions and are associated with an increased risk of aspiration;
 - morbid obesity (BMI \geq 40); and
 - children and adolescents with conditions treated for long periods with acetylsalicylic acid.
2. People \geq 65 years of age
3. Healthy children 5 to 18 years of age

For more information, please refer to the attached memo dated October 5, 2011 from the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

CLAIM SUBMISSION

Claims should be submitted under NBPDP Plan “I”. A patient profile should be set-up as for any patient and must include the vaccine recipient’s name and address; Medicare number; date of birth and gender; date vaccine administered, name and lot number of the vaccine. For billing purposes, the following procedures and information are required.

Field	Information Required
Patient ID	Patient’s NB Medicare number. Note: this also applies to NBPDP beneficiaries. In cases where an individual is eligible but resides out-of-province enter “999 999 999” in place of the Medicare number
Plan	“I” Note: this also applies to NBPDP beneficiaries.
Prescriber	“8000” plus the license number of the pharmacist administering the vaccine.
Drug	Fluviral [®] DIN: 02015986
Drug Cost	Zero
Dispensing Fee	\$12.00
Intervention and Exception Code	CPhA code “IB” for those individuals meeting at least one of the chronic conditions listed in table above.

Note: Regulation 2009-136, section 14 under the *Public Health Act* requires that those who administer a vaccine provide the recipient with a record of the immunization. A computer generated prescription receipt would satisfy this requirement.

VACCINE ORDERS

All pharmacists who have notified the New Brunswick Pharmacists’ Association of their intent to participate in the seasonal influenza campaign should fax their influenza vaccine orders to the Central Serum Depot at (506)648-6477 and include the following information:

- Number of doses required
- Delivery address including the pharmacy name
- Contact name and telephone number
- Preferred date of delivery

October 5, 2011

To: All Health Care Practitioners

Subject: 2011-2012 annual influenza vaccination

Dear Colleagues:

Vaccine formulation

The seasonal trivalent vaccine for 2011-2012 contains the same three components as the 2010-2011 vaccine. These are: an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1-like virus), an A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2-like virus) and a B/Brisbane/60/2008 (B Victoria lineage).

FLUVIRAL ® (10 dose vials) will be available for use in the Public Health program.

Vaccine eligibility

The eligible groups for receipt of free TIV this year include:

1. Adults and children with chronic health conditions as per NACI recommendations for 2011-2012 influenza season:
 - cardiac or pulmonary disorders (including bronchopulmonary dysplasia, cystic fibrosis and asthma);
 - diabetes mellitus and other metabolic diseases;
 - cancer, immune compromising conditions (due to underlying disease and/or therapy);
 - renal disease;
 - anemia or hemoglobinopathy;
 - conditions that compromise the management of respiratory secretions and are associated with an increased risk of aspiration;
 - morbid obesity (BMI \geq 40); and
 - children and adolescents with conditions treated for long periods with acetylsalicylic acid.
2. People of any age who are residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities;
3. People \geq 65 years of age;
4. Healthy children 6 months to 18 years of age;
5. All pregnant women;
6. Aboriginal people;
7. People capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk:
 - household contacts (adults and children) of individuals at high risk of influenza-related complications (whether or not the individual at high risk has been immunized), as listed under # 1;
 - household contacts of infants <6 months of age;
 - household contacts of children 6 months to 59 months;
 - members of a household expecting a newborn during the influenza season.

For more information, please refer to NACI statement for seasonal influenza vaccine for 2011-2012 (<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/naci-ccni/index-eng.php>).

Delivery of seasonal influenza vaccine

Seasonal influenza vaccine will be provided in NB through four major modes: primary care providers, Public Health nurses, certified pharmacists and by the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON).

Vaccination will continue to be provided through primary care providers to all eligible groups.

Public Health will be involved in the delivery of seasonal influenza through paediatric immunization clinics and dedicated influenza clinics.

VON will be providing the vaccination to the following groups:

- children 6 months to 18 years of age;
- all pregnant women;
- adults ≥ 65 years of age;
- household contacts of infants < 6 months of age;
- household contacts of children 6 months to 59 months;
- members of a household expecting a newborn during the influenza season.

Children aged 5 to 18, adults aged 65 and older, as well as individuals with identified chronic conditions aged 5 years and older, who are known to the pharmacist, will be able to receive the vaccine at select pharmacies.

Pediatric dosing

Children who have been previously immunized with seasonal influenza vaccine are to receive one dose (same as adults).

Children 6 months to less than 9 years of age receiving seasonal influenza for the first time, should be given two doses, with a minimum interval of four weeks between doses.

For intramuscular TIVs, the dose is now 0.5 ml IM for all age groups.

Also, egg allergy is no longer considered as a contraindication for TIV. Egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using TIV without a prior influenza vaccine skin test, based on an assessment of risk for a severe reaction to guide the method of vaccination.

For further information please contact your local Public Health Office.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Eilish Cleary
Chief Medical Officer of Health