

HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH • Office of the Medical Officer of Health

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TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: November 10, 2020

RE: High-Dose Trivalent Influenza Vaccine Supply and Vaccine Distribution Updates

QUICK FACTS

- Halton Region Public Health has fully distributed its allotment of high-dose trivalent influenza vaccine (HD-TIV). The Ministry of Health has indicated that further supply of HD-TIV is not expected.
- There is no preferential recommendation for HD-TIV over standard-dose quadrivalent (SD-QIV) according to the National Advisory Committee on Immunization. If HD-TIV is not available, health care providers should administer SD-QIV to patients.
- Regular bi-weekly vaccine delivery to Halton health care providers has started – this includes orders for all routine, influenza, and special/high-risk vaccines.
- Vaccine order pick-ups at 1151 Bronte Road will no longer be available effective November 16, 2020. If you have missed your scheduled delivery, or require urgent vaccines, please call 311.

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

- HD-TIV may be available at local pharmacies. Eligible individuals may choose to receive their vaccine at a pharmacy.
- Halton Region Public Health's current supply of SD-QIV is limited and orders may be adjusted. The Ministry of Health is expecting additional doses of SD-QIV to be available by the end of November or early December.
- Please submit your vaccine order bi-weekly by 4 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to your scheduled delivery. Information on vaccine delivery days and order timelines are noted on this [schedule](#).
- Health care providers must regularly review vaccine inventory. Expired vaccine should be removed from the vaccine fridge immediately and returned to Halton Region Public Health.

KEY MESSAGES FOR PATIENTS

- It is important for seniors to get a flu shot. Any of the available influenza vaccines are preferable to remaining unvaccinated.
- Early uptake of the flu shot and continued COVID-19 public health measures including masks, hand hygiene and physical distancing will help to keep cases of flu low this year.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For more information on vaccine management, see the [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#).
- Visit Halton's [Vaccine Information for Physicians](#) webpage for current information.

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES – IF YOU CAN'T ACCESS HYPERLINKS OR DIDN'T RECEIVE IN FULL, PLEASE EMAIL DOCTORS@HALTON.CA FOR ELECTRONIC COPY.