

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

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TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments, other Healthcare Providers

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

DATE: September 30, 2024

RE: COVID-19 Vaccines are Available for Ordering and Influenza Vaccine Auto-Shipment Dates

QUICK FACTS

- The first auto-shipment of influenza vaccines will be delivered by Critical Path courier, at no cost to your facility, starting **Monday, October 7**. Influenza vaccines that are sent as part of the auto-shipment, are not ordered by your facility. Instead, they are automatically sent to your facility.
- COVID-19 vaccines must be ordered through the [online vaccine ordering system](#).
 - Orders placed by **October 3** will be delivered with influenza auto-shipment #1
 - Orders placed by **October 10** will be delivered with influenza auto-shipment #2
- Vaccination of high priority groups for [influenza](#) and [COVID-19](#) immunization can begin as soon as vaccines are available.
- Vaccination for the general population for influenza and COVID-19 will begin on October 28. Do not plan large-scale vaccination clinics before this date.

INFLUENZA VACCINE KEY INFORMATION

The following **influenza vaccine products** are available this season:

Age Group	QIV			QIV-HD	TIV-adj
	FluLaval Tetra	Fluzone® Quadrivalent	Flucelvax® Quad	Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent	Fluad®
6 months and older	✓	✓	✓		
≥ 65 years	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent will be prioritized for hospitalized individuals and residents of long-term care and retirement homes. Remaining doses will be made available to other seniors in the community.
- Limited quantities of Flucelvax® will be available this season. Call 311 to order Flucelvax®.
- Primary care providers can anticipate receiving [fewer influenza doses](#) in their auto-shipment(s) than what was received in 2023 because the Ministry of Health only receives a portion of the total provincial supply in October.

- Additional influenza vaccines can be ordered starting **October 15**.
 - North Halton facilities that order influenza vaccines by **October 18** will receive their influenza order the following week. This extended ordering deadline applies to influenza vaccines only.
 - This extension will allow facilities to determine required quantities, after receiving their second influenza auto-shipment.

COVID-19 VACCINE KEY INFORMATION

The following **COVID-19 vaccine products** are available this season:

Product	Age Group	Availability
Moderna KP.2	6 months of age and older	Currently available.
Pfizer KP.2	12 years of age and older	Expected to be available later this fall. Will be added to the online vaccine ordering system when product is available.

VACCINE DELIVERY INFORMATION

The auto-shipment delivery schedule for the fall vaccination campaign is as follows:

AUTO-SHIPMENT DELIVERY SCHEDULE		
Municipality	Delivery Date	
	Auto-Shipment #1	Auto-Shipment #2
Milton and Halton Hills	October 7	October 15
Burlington	October 8 or 9	October 16 or 17
Oakville	October 9, 10 or 11	October 17, 18 or 21

- Due to the volume of deliveries, auto-shipments in Burlington and Oakville, will be completed over several days. Your auto-shipment delivery will be on one of the dates provided on the schedule.
- Facilities **must** have a staff member present on site to receive their vaccine delivery **between the hours of 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** Requests for a specific delivery time or date **cannot** be accommodated. Any vaccines not received by the facility will be returned to Halton Regional Centre, and another delivery will be attempted the following week.
- Public hospitals, long term care homes and retirement homes will be receiving **all** of their initial influenza vaccine from the **first auto-shipment**.
- Primary care providers will be receiving their initial influenza vaccines in **two auto-shipments**.
- Long term care and retirement homes that have a pharmacy partnership to offer influenza and/or COVID-19 vaccines will not receive vaccines from Public Health. Pharmacy will supply vaccines.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [2024/2025 Universal Influenza Immunization Program \(UIIP\)](#), Ministry of Health
- COVID-19 vaccine information for [Health Care Professionals](#) and the [public](#), Ministry of Health
- [Public Health Updates for Halton Physicians: Focus on 2024-2025 Fall Vaccines](#), Halton Region

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) (only report COVID-19 cases occurring in high-risk settings) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY TO ALL PHYSICIANS IN YOUR OFFICE AND/OR POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES. IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH THIS ATTACHMENT, PLEASE EMAIL DOCTORS@HALTON.CA.