TO: Halton Physicians
   Medical Chiefs of Staff: Joseph Brant Hospital, Halton Healthcare (Oakville, Milton and Georgetown Hospitals)
   Chairs of: Family Practice, Paediatrics, Internal Medicine, Emergency, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Surgery
   Chief of Laboratory Services and Infection Control Practitioners

POST IN: Emergency Department and Physicians Lounge

FROM: Dr. Julie Emili, Associate Medical Officer of Health (Acting)

DATE: February 1, 2018

RE: Availability of Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (QIV) for non-immunized adults

Currently, influenza A activity is within expected levels for this time of year, however influenza B activity is much higher than compared to previous seasons.

In response to the increased influenza B activity, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) has advised that QIV may be administered to unvaccinated individuals over 18 years of age.

Health care providers who wish to provide QIV to unvaccinated individuals are able to order additional quantities of QIV from the Halton Region Health Department. The vaccine order form is available on the website at www.halton.ca/physicians. The vaccine depot is open for order pick-up Tuesday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Please allow 3 business days for vaccine orders to be processed and to be ready for pick-up. Vaccine will only be released if you bring a MOHLTC approved hard sided cooler with ice packs and a min/max thermometer showing between 2 & 8 degrees to pick up your order.

Vaccination is still recommended for those who have not received influenza vaccine this flu season, as influenza activity remains widespread in Halton and can continue on for the next few months.

There is no evidence to support re-vaccination for those who have already received TIV.

Please report all suspected or confirmed cases of reportable diseases to the Halton Region Health Department immediately. Dial 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866. For general information, please visit www.halton.ca/physicians. To sign up for important updates by email, visit www.halton.ca/physicianupdates.

If any link provided in this memo does not work, please cut and paste it into your web browser.