

Influenza Immunizing During COVID-19

Plan ahead



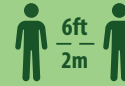
Plan to offer immunizations in early November.



Ensure staff are trained on PPE, IPAC, vaccine storage and handling and hand hygiene.



Dedicate a separate time or date for people 65 years and older and/or immunocompromised only.



Keep chairs in the waiting area two-metres apart.



Put up a sign that states masks are mandatory unless exempt.

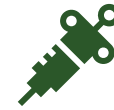
Schedule an appointment



Reduce overcrowding by offering appointment-only (no walk-ins).



Recommend patients wear short-sleeved shirts.



Review the patient's immunization record to determine if they are eligible to receive other vaccines.

Screen, protect and clean



Place signs reminding patients of Public Health measures.



Screen everyone before entry.



Complete a personal risk assessment to determine the level of precaution required.



Disinfect immunization areas and waiting/recovery room between patients.

Provide direction



Have a separate telephone line dedicated to patients calling in from parking lot.



Have patients wait in their car until their scheduled appointment time.



Develop a plan that will maintain a direct client flow through the clinical space.

Influenza Immunization Checklist

This checklist is designed to help Halton health care providers plan and implement influenza immunization during the COVID-19 pandemic. This list is not meant to be all inclusive and some items may not be applicable to your practice.

Yes	No	N/A	Influenza Immunizing Checklist
Plan ahead			
			Plan to offer patients opportunity to get vaccinated in early November to ensure adequate influenza vaccine supply.
			Comply with Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines .
			Consider having an appointment-only immunization schedule and dedicated space. Consider extending the hours patients can receive immunizations to avoid crowding.
			Consider planning a schedule for patients 65 years old and older and immunocompromised patients only. Consider separate schedules for ill and healthy patients.
			Promote physical distancing as much as possible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ask patients to wait in their car until their appointment time (call or text them when ready). use signage, barriers or floor markings for people who are waiting. space chairs in waiting areas two metres apart. limit the number of people in waiting areas and monitoring entries/exits, allowing extra space for clients that require it (wheelchairs and strollers).
			Ensure staff are trained on donning and doffing PPE , Infection Prevention and Control including the 4 moments of Hand Hygiene.
			Ensure staff have an adequate amount of PPE available such as surgical masks, eye protection, gowns, gloves and face shields as determined by personal risk assessment.
			Ensure staff have adequate and appropriate disinfectants and hand sanitizer available. Increase the frequency of cleaning.
			Post the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Patient Screening Guidance document in a visible area for staff.
Schedule an appointment			
			Reduce overcrowding by offering appointment only (no walk-ins).
			Encourage patient-only appointment where possible (avoid bringing family members into the clinic).
			Assess a patient's immunization record to determine if the patient is eligible to receive other routine vaccines. Where possible, offer multiple immunizations in one appointment to minimize the risk of exposure.
			Consider increasing the appointment duration to account for screening, IPAC and post immunization recovery.
			Recommend that patients wear short-sleeved shirts to reduce time and physical contact.

Yes	No	N/A	Influenza Immunizing Checklist
Screen, protect and clean			
			Consider different types of active screening tools: online and telephone before an appointment or in-person before entry.
			Screen everyone, staff and patients. Include passive screening (through signage) and an active screening questionnaire before entry, even if they were already pre-screened by telephone when the appointment was made.
			Place signs at the entrance reminding visitors not to enter if they are feeling ill, to put on their non-medical mask or face covering, to use the hand sanitizer, and to maintain physical distancing.
			Refer patients who screen positive to an assessment centre for testing. Do not allow the patient to enter. Their immunization must be rescheduled.
			Complete a personal risk assessment to determine the level of precaution required.
			Ensure hand sanitizer is available throughout the clinic, including entry, immunization stations, waiting area and exit.
			Disinfect immunization stations and waiting/recovery room between patients.
Provide direction			
			Consider having patients wait in their car until their scheduled appointment time. Consider having a separate telephone line dedicated to patients calling in from parking lot. Place a sign in the parking lot with that number.
			Provide clear wayfinding/directional signage for patients in parking lots, at all entry and exit points, elevators, stairs, and within the clinic.
			Clarify the location of the post-immunization waiting area.
			Consider limiting the amount of vaccine supplies in a patient's room because anything entering that room is considered contaminated and should be disposed of immediately after the patient leaves. Draw up doses from multi-dose vials before entering a clinic room.