

Fall 2025 immunizations

Influenza vaccine update

The provincially funded Fall 2025/2026 immunization program will officially begin on **October 20, 2025**. All advertising or promotional materials must clearly indicate the start date for public access to the influenza vaccine.

Due to changes in circulating strains, influenza vaccines in Canada have moved from quadrivalent to trivalent formulation. Both standard dose and senior dose influenza vaccines offered in Alberta will be trivalent. Further information regarding the products available in the provincially funded vaccine program will be provided in August 2025.

Standard dose influenza

For the Fall 2025/2026 season, Primary and Preventative Health Services will not assign individual allocations of the standard-dose influenza vaccine to pharmacies. Pharmacies that wish to receive their initial supply before **October 20, 2025**, must follow the ordering procedures provided by their pharmacy wholesale distributor.

Senior dose influenza

Fluad (adjuvanted influenza vaccine) will be provided for individuals aged 65 and older.

As in previous years, Primary and Preventative Health Services will determine pipeline allocations for the 65+ vaccine based on data gathered from 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 seasons. This includes Alberta Blue Cross® claims data, doses administered, doses distributed and projected inventory supply. For newer pharmacies that began offering influenza vaccines in the 2024/2025 season, only that year's data will be used.

If a pharmacy does not receive its allocation email by **July 25, 2025**, please complete the following steps:

1. Check with your Alberta's Vaccine Inventory Management System (AVI) registered users to ensure no one received the email.
2. Confirm the email was not moved to a spam or junk mail folder.
3. If the AVI registered user has not received the email and the email is NOT in the junk/spam folder, submit a request using the following Google Form by **August 15, 2025**: <https://forms.gle/pBtLScRkt34k1AAF7>

Requests for pharmacy wholesale changes, allocation reviews or new allocations must also be submitted by August 15, 2025, using the Google Form above. Allocation adjustments will only be considered for pharmacies that opened after **January 1, 2025**, or those that have experienced a significant and unexpected increase in patient volume, such as due to a nearby pharmacy closure. Questions regarding the senior dose allocation should be directed to health.imm@gov.ab.ca

Pharmacies are advised to order vaccines judiciously. While there is sufficient influenza vaccine supply for the season, shipments will arrive in stages throughout September, October and November. Vaccines are distributed through pharmacy wholesale distributors in coordination with Primary and Preventative Health Services and must be ordered in units, not individual doses. It is important to note that pharmacy wholesalers cannot accept returns for ordering errors made at the pharmacy level.

continued next page

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COVID-19 Vaccine update – Alberta (Fall 2025)

COVID-19 vaccine update for all Albertans will be available closer to the fall of 2025.

COVID-19 2024/2025 vaccine removal date

As the new COVID-19 formulation moves through Health Canada licencing in the coming weeks, all immunizers, including pharmacists, are to **stop administering the Pfizer KP.2 COVID-19 vaccine by end of day July 31, 2025**. All KP.2 vaccine must be removed from physical and AVI inventory **no later than August 31, 2025**.

All withdrawn COVID-19 vaccine must be accounted for and reconciled in AVI using the following:

- Category code "Recall"
- Reason code "Recall"

This reason code will help Primary and Preventative Health Services track what vaccine was removed due to the program ending versus what vaccine was wasted due to vaccine expiry.

Please note that pharmacy wholesalers cannot accept vaccine returns. Pharmacies are responsible for the proper destruction of unused or expired vaccine. The cost of destruction will not be reimbursed.

After **August 31, 2025**, any pharmacy with KP.2 COVID-19 vaccine remaining in AVI inventory would be considered outside of the AVI compliance and would be notified by Primary and Preventive Health Services.

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)
403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)
1-800-361-9632 (toll free)
FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)
FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct-bill drug claims.

Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php

