

BC Influenza Disease 2020/21 season (Sept 27, 2020 - May 1, 2021)

- No sign of influenza virus circulation in 2020-21

Vaccine Effectiveness in 2020/2021

- Given the low influenza circulation, vaccine effectiveness estimates were not available for the 2020-2021 season

Influenza Vaccines for the 2021/22 Influenza Season

1. The strain components for the 2021/22 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccines are:
 - **A/Victoria/2570/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (NEW THIS YEAR)**
 - **A/Cambodia/e0826360/2020 (H3N2)-like virus (NEW THIS YEAR)**
 - B/Washington/02/2019 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus
 - B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus (In quadrivalent vaccines only)
2. All BC publicly-funded influenza vaccines for the 2021/22 season are quadrivalent (vaccines new this season are bolded):
 - FLUZONE® QUADRIVALENT - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 6 months of age and older)
 - FLULAVAL® TETRA - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 6 months of age and older)
 - FLUMIST® QUADRIVALENT – Quadrivalent Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 2 – 17 years of age)
 - **AFLURIA® TETRA - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 5 years of age and older)**
 - FLUZONE® HIGH DOSE QUADRIVALENT - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 65 years of age and older who are residents of long term care, assisted living facilities and **First Nations communities**)
3. Thimerosal Free Vaccines: Products in pre-filled syringes and FLUMIST® QUADRIVALENT are thimerosal-free and should be used for individuals with a known hypersensitivity to thimerosal as per the age groups indicated above
4. Vaccine Components: Other than the change in vaccine antigens, there are no new vaccine components in the BC publicly funded influenza vaccines for the 2021/22 season

Influenza Vaccine: Administration & Reactions

1. Vaccinators should wear masks and eye protection for all encounters and should wear gloves when administering intranasal influenza vaccine (COVID-19 precautions)
2. The FLUZONE® HIGH-DOSE QUADRIVALENT vaccine
 - will be provided in BC to those individuals 65 years and older who are residents of long-term care, assisted living facilities and **First Nations communities**
 - Provided as a single dose pre-filled syringe given as **0.7 mL IM**
3. There are **no changes** in the 2021/22 influenza season for the following:
 - Categories of eligible people for BC publicly-funded influenza vaccine
 - Precautions
 - Influenza vaccine schedules
 - Product specific contraindications
 - Procedures for reporting influenza vaccine reactions

New and Updated Resources

1. [Fluzone® High-Dose Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine Q&A](#)
2. [HealthLink BC Files:](#)
 - [Why Seniors Should Get the Inactivated Influenza \(Flu\) Vaccine - 12a](#)
 - [Facts about influenza \(the Flu\) - 12b](#)
 - [Inactivated Influenza \(Flu\) vaccine - 12d](#)
 - [Live Attenuated Influenza \(Flu\) Vaccine -12e](#)