

In-Home Flu Vaccination for Patients Receiving Homecare

Update to York Region health care providers as of November 18, 2022

York Region Public Health (YRPH) has received questions regarding the availability of **in-home flu vaccinations** for patients receiving homecare. York Region Public Health is **not** currently providing in-home flu vaccinations; however, **Home and Community Care Support Services (HCCSS)**, former LHIN/CCAC, does provide this service to their homebound patients.

To access the program, **these patients should be directed to contact their HCCSS care coordinator**. A medical referral from the patient's health care provider is required, however, the care coordinator can assist patients in obtaining this referral. The in-home flu vaccine program is available until December 31, 2022.

High-Dose Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV-HD)

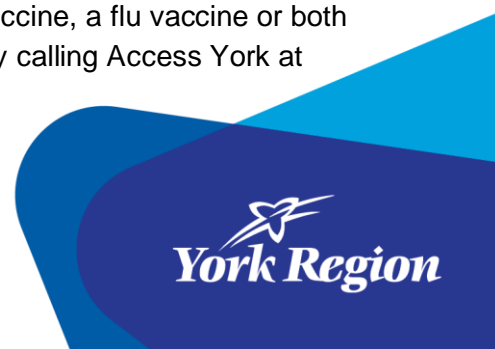
As expected, the demand for influenza vaccines has been exceptionally high during the 2022-23 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) campaign. As a result, **YRPH's QIV-HD stock has been depleted**. The Ministry of Health has notified health units that all doses of QIV-HD have been distributed by the Ontario Government Pharmaceutical and Medical Supply Services (OGPMSS) and **the provincial supply is now depleted**. Consequently, YRPH is no longer able to fulfill orders for QIV-HD.

YRPH continues to fulfill influenza vaccine orders for the Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV). QIV is safe and effective in protecting against influenza and is approved for anyone six months of age and over without contraindications to the vaccine.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) states that any of the influenza vaccines may be used for individuals 65 years of age and older. **Do not delay flu vaccination of your patients**. The most important thing is to **vaccinate your patients as soon as possible** and to continue to **administer any available influenza vaccine to those 65 years of age and older**. Early uptake of the flu vaccine, in addition to mask wearing and proper hand hygiene, will help to protect against the flu this season.

Important Vaccine Reminders

- This year, flu vaccines are available at fixed-location York Region Public Health COVID-19 vaccine clinics
- Any individual five years of age and older may be given COVID-19 vaccines concurrently with (i.e., same day), or at any time before or after, the flu vaccine
- Patients should get vaccinated as soon as they become eligible for either vaccine
- COVID-19 and flu vaccines are both highly recommended for the best protection against these serious respiratory illnesses heading into the fall and winter months
- Patients may book an appointment and receive either a COVID-19 vaccine, a flu vaccine or both vaccines at the same time at york.ca/covid19vaccine, york.ca/flu or by calling Access York at 1-877-464-9675



Contact York Region Public Health

If you require additional supply of flu vaccine, please complete the [UIIP 2022-2023 Influenza Vaccine Order Form](#) and e-mail it to vaccineinventory@york.ca or fax to 905-830-0578 with the most current five business days of refrigeration temperature logs.

If you have any questions about ordering vaccines or vaccine distribution, please contact the Vaccine Inventory program at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033.

Additional vaccination information can be found on York Region's [Vaccination Information for Health Professionals](#) webpage.

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