

## Influenza immunization season 2024-2025 – pharmacy end of season

Thank you to all pharmacists who participated in the 2024-2025 Alberta Influenza Immunization Program.

### 2024-2025 Influenza Season Highlights

- Over 1 million Albertans received their influenza immunization.
- The Alberta influenza immunization rate is 21 per cent.
- 52 per cent of Albertans 65 years of age and older have received their influenza vaccine.
- Pharmacists immunized approximately 831,613 Albertans (81 per cent).

### End Date for the 2024-2025 Influenza Immunization Program

- The Alberta Influenza Immunization Program (including Outreach) ends on **March 31, 2025**.
- Children 5 to 9 years of age eligible for a second dose of influenza vaccine can receive it until **April 30, 2025**. Note, however, that pharmacy wholesale distributors will not be distributing vaccine after **March 31, 2025**. If a vaccine is not available at your pharmacy, refer clients eligible for a second dose to another health care practitioner. Alberta Blue Cross will accept claims until **April 30, 2025** for children 5 to 9 years old.
- **Reminder:** pharmacists may only administer provincially funded vaccine (including influenza) to **children five years of age and older**. Children under 5 years of age should be directed to Alberta Health Services Public Health to receive a first or second dose influenza vaccine.

### AVI Reconciliation of Influenza Vaccine

All provincially funded influenza vaccines must be removed from cold chain storage for appropriate destruction on May 1, 2025. All influenza vaccines leftover at the end of the season is considered withdrawn and inventory remaining must be accounted for and reconciled in the Alberta Vaccine Inventory (AVI) management system using:

- Category: Wasted
- Reason: Wasted/Influenza Season End

The wholesalers cannot accept provincially funded influenza vaccine returns. You are responsible for the proper destruction of unused or expired vaccines. The cost of destruction will not be reimbursed.

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](https://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

