

MEMO

2024 – 2025 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Prebook Information

January 16, 2024

North Dakota Prevention Partnership Providers

For the 2024 - 2025 influenza season, all Vaccines for Children (VFC) and Vaccines for Adults (VFA) influenza vaccine prebooking will be completed online. The online survey can be found on the North Dakota Department Health and Human Services (ND HHS) [website](#). Please complete the online influenza vaccine prebook survey by **Friday, February 2, 2024**. It is very important that prebook influenza vaccine orders are received prior to this date, as ND HHS has to prebook influenza vaccine with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Once the survey is submitted, the provider's influenza vaccine prebook has been placed with ND HHS. The ND HHS asks all providers to print a copy of their submitted influenza vaccine prebook to have on hand. The last page of the prebooking survey will prompt providers to do this. Having a copy of your clinic's influenza vaccine prebook will be helpful when vaccine begins to ship in early fall/summer 2024. Influenza vaccine may not be provided to clinics who do not prebook influenza vaccine.

North Dakota providers are encouraged to review 2023 – 2024 influenza vaccination [rates](#) and usage and set goals for increasing influenza vaccination rates during the 2024 – 2025 season. Providers should be prebooking more influenza vaccine for the 2024 – 2025 season to increase influenza immunization rates. Providers are encouraged to be proactive and call children in to receive influenza vaccine. Also, ensure vaccination is available at convenient times and locations.

The ND HHS highly recommends that providers prebook more than one brand and presentation (i.e., vials and syringes), in case of influenza vaccine supply issues. By prebooking only one brand or presentation, providers may not receive influenza vaccine

until later in the influenza season, or not at all, if their particular brand or presentation is involved in a vaccine delay, shortage, or recall. Also, often in influenza seasons, certain brands or presentations are released through the allocation system sooner, so providers may receive doses earlier for this reason. Please keep in mind to only prebook brands or presentations that staff will be educated on how to use. Prebooking several brands may allow for faster delivery, but if staff are unaware how to administer them correctly it could result in medication errors. VFC and VFA influenza vaccine will be shipped from McKesson in multiple shipments to providers for the 2024 – 2025 influenza season.

ND HHS-supplied influenza vaccine must be used for **VFC-eligible children (Medicaid-eligible, American Indian or Alaskan Native, uninsured or underinsured) only**. **It is your clinic's responsibility to order private influenza vaccine for insured children to ensure all children in your clinic are vaccinated.** VFC and VFA influenza vaccine will be allocated to providers based on prebook orders, previous influenza vaccine orders, doses administered entered into the NDIIS from the 2023- 2024 influenza season and your clinic's size. Providers are not guaranteed to receive all of the vaccine they prebook.

Providers will be able to prebook influenza vaccine for VFA-eligible un/underinsured adults (i.e., homeless population, refugees). Influenza vaccine that is prebooked by providers for VFC-eligible pediatric patients should not be used for the adult population. The VFC Program is an entitlement program, so if children are eligible to receive vaccine, they must be able to receive VFC vaccine.

Some suggestions for determining the amount of influenza vaccine to prebook:

- Children eight years of age and younger who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time will need to receive **two** doses. The doses should be given at least four weeks apart.
- Use the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS) to determine the amount of influenza vaccine administered last year. When running a doses administered report in the NDIIS, use "ALL VFC TYPES" for VFC TYPE and "STATE-SUPPLIED" for VACCINE TYPE. Do not select "All Clients." This will show the information based on vaccine type, not brand choice.
- Consider the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for vaccination of all children 6 months – 18 years.
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html

- AstraZeneca has submitted an [application](#) to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the approval of a self-administered option for Flumist[®]. If approved, Flumist[®] will be the first flu vaccine available to be self-administered. There are many planning implications and a potential for an increase in uptake associated with a self-administered influenza vaccine so providers and health systems should include this scenario in their planning for the upcoming influenza season.
- Following the October 5, 2023, Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) Meeting, FDA provided direction for manufacturers to plan for a transition to trivalent flu vaccine. As a result, flu vaccines available for the 2024-2025 season may reflect a mixture of trivalent and quadrivalent vaccines. If a mixture of vaccines is available, both trivalent and quadrivalent flu vaccines will be recommended to protect children and adults against influenza during the 2024-2025 season. The ND HHS will adjust prebooks based on what distributions of trivalent and quadrivalent quantities are received.

Contact the ND HHS Immunization Unit with any questions at vaccine@nd.gov.

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