

## MEMO

### 2026 – 2027 Respiratory Season Prebook Information

January 22, 2026

#### North Dakota Prevention Partnership Providers

For the 2026 - 2027 respiratory season, all Vaccines for Children (VFC) and Vaccines for Adults (VFA) influenza, COVID-19, and RSV mAb immunization prebooking will be completed in the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS). The prebooking module can be found in the NDIIS under the ordering section. Detailed instructions on completing the prebook via the NDIIS can be found attached to the prebook email and the instructions are also available through the NDIIS tip sheets link in the Help menu.

Please complete the NDIIS 2026-2027 respiratory season prebook survey by **Friday, February 6, 2026**. It is critical that influenza, COVID-19 and RSV mAb immunization prebooks are received prior to this date, as ND HHS must prebook vaccine with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Prebooks must be completed and saved in NDIIS by Friday, February 6, 2026, providers will not be able to make changes to the prebook after this date. You will be able to view your clinic's respiratory season prebook in NDIIS; this will be helpful when vaccine begins to ship in late summer/early fall 2026. Respiratory season prebooks will be available to print following February NDIIS deployment, so check back for that functionality. Respiratory immunizations may not be provided to clinics that do not prebook.

As respiratory coverage rates continue to decline, North Dakota providers are encouraged to review 2025 – 2026 respiratory season vaccination rates, and usage and set goals for increasing respiratory season vaccination rates during the 2026 – 2027 season.

ND HHS highly recommends that providers prebook more than one brand of influenza vaccine in case of vaccine supply issues. Providers that prebook only one brand may not receive influenza vaccine until later in the influenza season, or at all, if their selected brand is involved in a delay. Additionally, during many influenza seasons certain brands are released through the

allocation system earlier than others, so providers may receive doses earlier for this reason. Providers should only prebook brands for which staff will be educated. While prebooking several brands may allow for faster delivery, lack of staff familiarity with administration could result in medication errors. VFC and VFA influenza vaccine will be shipped from McKesson in multiple shipments to providers for the 2026 – 2027 influenza season.

ND HHS-supplied influenza, COVID-19, and RSV mAb immunizations must be used only for **VFC-eligible children (Medicaid-eligible, American Indian or Alaskan Native, uninsured, or underinsured)**. It is your clinic's responsibility to order private influenza, COVID-19, and RSV mAb immunizations for insured patients to ensure all patients at your facility are vaccinated. Providers will be able to prebook influenza and COVID-19 vaccine for VFA-eligible un/underinsured adults. The VFC Program is an entitlement program, so if children are eligible to receive immunizations, they must be able to receive VFC immunizations.

VFC and VFA influenza, COVID-19, and RSV mAb immunizations will be allocated to providers based on prebook orders, previous influenza, COVID-19 and RSV mAb immunization orders, doses administered and entered into the NDIIS during the 2025- 2026 respiratory season and your clinic's size. Providers are not guaranteed to receive all of the immunizations they prebook.

Some suggestions for determining the amount of influenza, COVID-19 and RSV mAb immunizations to prebook:

- For influenza: 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 NDIIS patient doses administered report to determine the number of doses administered last season.
- Consider the immunization recommendations from organizations such as the AAP, AAFP, ACOG, CDC etc.

Other important considerations for the upcoming respiratory season:

- Coverage rates continue to decline, so making respiratory season vaccination convenient for patients is essential. Please consider providing immunizations at off-site locations and after-hours clinics. Utilizing reminder and recall systems in the NDIIS or EMRs helps patients to be reminded when they are due for vaccinations or for children who need a second dose of influenza vaccine.
- Infants should be offered a dose of RSV mAb in the first seven days of life, preferably before hospital discharge, to give them the best chance at protection against RSV.

However, all newborns may not be offered a dose of RSV mAb at their birthing facility prior to discharge. Clinics should start screening newborns as soon as they see them to determine if they have received a dose of RSV mAb.

- Separation of stock: Influenza vaccine that is prebooked by providers for VFC-eligible pediatric patients should not be used for the adult population. Prebooked COVID-19 vaccine may be used for either pediatric or adult patients.

Contact the ND HHS Immunization Unit with any questions at [vaccine@nd.gov](mailto:vaccine@nd.gov).

Miranda Baumgartner

*Vaccines for Children/QI Coordinator*