



H1N1 VACCINES FOR VISITORS

In the coming weeks, the increase in visitors to the province for the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games may result in greater demand for H1N1 vaccine from the public health supply.

If you receive a request for H1N1 vaccine, please:

- Do not create a PHN for the individual.
- Do not submit a claim for the vaccine on PharmaNet.
- Order the vaccine through your Biological Products Monitor in your Local Health Unit (LHU) as usual.
- Document use of the vaccine in keeping with the requirements set by your LHU.

Visitors will need to pay for administration of the vaccine. The province will not cover any portion of the cost of injecting the vaccine. The charge to the patient for administration is at the discretion of each individual pharmacy. There is no cost for the vaccine itself.

USE OF ADJUVANTED / UNADJUVANTED H1N1 VACCINE

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) recommends the use of the unadjuvanted H1N1 vaccine in 10 - 64 year olds who are not immunocompromised. Using unadjuvanted H1N1 vaccine allows pharmacists to meet the needs of individual patients requesting vaccines as it is stable for 28 days, compared to the 24-hour stability of the reconstituted adjuvanted vaccine.

Pharmacies are encouraged to continue using the adjuvanted vaccine when they are able to schedule enough patients to use the majority of vaccine in the vial within a 24 hour period.

Both the adjuvanted and unadjuvanted H1N1 vaccines are available from your local public health unit.

FLU CLINIC LOCATOR

The BCCDC flu clinic locator is available online at www.health.gov.bc.ca/flu/. Pharmacies listed on the flu clinic locator are reminded to ensure that information posted on this site is accurate and up to date.

The use of PharmaNet is not intended as a substitute for professional judgment.

Information on PharmaNet is not exhaustive and cannot be relied upon as complete.

The absence of a warning about a drug or drug combination is not an indication that the drug or drug combination is safe, appropriate or effective in any given patient.

Health care professionals should confirm information obtained from PharmaNet, and ensure no additional relevant information exists, before making patient care decisions.