

BC Influenza Disease 2019/20 season (November 10, 2019 - May 2, 2020)

- There was roughly a 60:40 split of co-circulating influenza A and influenza B viruses, respectively

Vaccine Effectiveness in 2019/2020

- A good level of protection from the influenza vaccines was observed among working age adults (20-64 yrs) across all influenza types

[Guidance for Influenza Vaccine Delivery in the Presence of COVID-19](#) - Guidance on the delivery of influenza vaccine and mass immunization clinics during the COVID-19 pandemic

Influenza Vaccines for the 2020/21 Influenza Season

1. The strain components for the 2020/21 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccines are:
 - **A/Guangdong-Maonan/SWL1536/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus - NEW THIS SEASON**
 - **A/Hong Kong/2671/2019 (H3N2)-like virus – NEW THIS SEASON**
 - **B/Washington/02/2019-like (B/Victoria lineage) virus – NEW THIS SEASON**
 - B/Phuket/3073/2013 - like virus (Yamagata lineage) - IN QUADRIVALENT VACCINES ONLY
2. BC publicly-funded influenza vaccines for the 2020/21 season (vaccines not used in the previous season are bolded):
 - FLUZONE® QUADRIVALENT - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 6 months – 17 years of age)
 - FLULAVAL® TETRA - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 6 months – 17 years of age)
 - **FLUMIST® Quadrivalent Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 2 – 17 years of age)**
 - FLUVIRAL® - Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 18-64 years of age)
 - AGRIFLU® - Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 18-64 years of age)
 - **FLUAD® - Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 65 years of age and older)**
 - **FLUZONE® HIGH DOSE - Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (intended for those 65 years of age and older living in long term care and assisted living facilities)**
3. Thimerosal Free Vaccines: Products in pre-filled syringes and FLUMIST® QUADRIVALENT are thimerosal-free and should be used for individuals with a known hypersensitivity to thimerosal as per the age groups indicated above
4. Vaccine Components: Other than the change in vaccine antigens, there are no new vaccine components in the BC publicly funded influenza vaccines for the 2020/21 season

Influenza Vaccine: Administration & Reactions

1. Intranasal route is available for administering publicly funded 2020/21 live attenuated influenza vaccines
2. Vaccinators should wear masks and eye protection for all encounters and should wear gloves when administering intranasal influenza vaccine (COVID-19 precautions)
3. There are **no changes** in the 2020/21 influenza season for the following:
 - Categories of eligible people for BC publicly-funded influenza vaccine;
 - Precautions;
 - Influenza vaccine schedules;
 - Product specific contraindications;
 - Procedures for reporting influenza vaccine reactions.

New and Updated Resources

- [Fluzone® High-Dose Influenza Vaccine Q&A – updated September 2020](#)
- The following [HealthLinkBC Files](#) for influenza will be available soon: #12c Influenza (Flu) Immunization: Myths and Facts, #12d Inactivated Influenza (Flu) Vaccine and #12e Live Attenuated Influenza (Flu) Vaccine