SUMMARY – NEW FOR INFLUENZA SEASON 2019/20

BC Influenza Disease 2018/19 season (October 1, 2018 – April 27, 2019)

- From October 1, 2018 to mid-February 2019, 60% of the subtyped A viruses were A(H1N1)pdm09.
- From mid-February 2019 to April 27, 2019, 77% of subtyped A viruses were A(H3N2).
- Very little Influenza B circulated compared to previous seasons.

Vaccine Effectiveness

- The Canadian Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN) undertakes analyses to assess effectiveness of the 2018/19 influenza vaccines.
- Vaccine effectiveness against Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 remained stable at approximately 70% with substantial protection observed in all age groups.
- Vaccine effectiveness against Influenza A(H3N2) showed little or no protection against medically attended outpatient A(H3N2) illness.

Influenza Vaccines for the 2019/20 Influenza Season

1. The strain components for the 2019/20 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccines:
   - A/Brisbane/02/2018 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus – NEW THIS SEASON
   - A/Kansas/14/2017 (H3N2)-like virus – NEW THIS SEASON
   - B/Colorado/06/2017-like virus (Victoria lineage)
   - B/Phuket/3073/2013 - like virus (Yamagata lineage) - IN QUADRIVALENT VACCINES ONLY

2. BC publicly-funded influenza vaccines for 2019/20 season:
   - FLUVIRAL® - Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Inactivated Split Virion) (TIIV)
   - AGRIFLU® - Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Inactivated Subunit) (TIIV) – NEW THIS SEASON
   - FLUZONE® QUADRIVALENT - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Inactivated Split Virion) (QIIV)
   - FLULAVAL® TETRA - Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Inactivated Split Virion) (QIIV)

   Note: FluMist® Quadrivalent is not available for use in Canada for the 2019 – 2020 influenza season. Therefore, no live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) is available in Canada for this season.

Influenza Vaccine: Administration & Reactions

1. There are no changes in the 2019/20 influenza season for the following:
   - categories of eligible people for BC publicly-funded influenza vaccine;
   - influenza vaccine schedules (other than the removal of LAIV);
   - precautions;
   - contraindications;
   - influenza vaccine expected or rare reactions;
   - procedures for reporting influenza vaccines reactions.

2. Only the intramuscular route is available for administering publicly funded 2019/20 influenza vaccines.

3. For those with a known hypersensitivity to thimerosal, AGRIFLU® should be used for the 2019/20 influenza season.

New Resources

- FLUZONE® High-Dose (not publicly funded) may be marketed to seniors in BC, BCCDC has updated the following:
  - Fluzone® High-Dose Influenza Vaccine Q&A – updated August 2019
- Influenza HealthLink BC Files 12a, 12b, 12c, & 12d updated to remove reference to LAIV
- Influenza HealthLink BC File Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (#12e) deleted