Provincial Health Services Authority

Chronic Heart or Lung Disease

Chronic heart disease includes individuals requiring regular medication and follow up for conditions such as ischemic heart disease, congenital heart disease, chronic heart failure, or hypertension with cardiac complications.

Chronic lung disease includes individuals with conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema, bronchiectasis, interstitial lung fibrosis, or cystic fibrosis, as well as those with asthma who have required acute medical care in the preceding 12 months (e.g., emergency department visit, hospitalization or treatments such as oral steroids).

Recommended vaccines for those with chronic heart or lung disease ^A	
All routine vaccines	Immunize according to routine schedule.
COVID-19 vaccine	Refer to Part 4 – Biological Products, COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility for recommendations.
Influenza vaccine	Immunize yearly (all those 6 months of age and older).
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine	Immunize according to age and pneumococcal vaccine history
	For premature infants with ongoing lung impairment, refer to Part 2 – Immunization of Special Populations, Infants Born Prematurely.

Individuals with chronic heart or lung disease are at higher risk of influenza related complications, including pneumococcal infection and potentially the exacerbation of their underlying disease. People at high risk of influenza related complications are more likely to require hospitalization.

A For specific vaccine schedule information, refer to Part 4 - Biological Products.