

HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH • Office of the Medical Officer of Health

TEL: 905-825-6000 • TOLL FREE: 1-866-442-5866 • FAX: 905-825-1444

TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments, other Healthcare Providers

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: May 7, 2024

RE: Returning Non-Reusable Influenza Vaccines

QUICK FACTS

- Healthcare providers can now return non-reusable influenza vaccines to Halton Region Public Health. Vaccines can be returned:
 - By vaccine courier with your next vaccine delivery
 - In person during designated vaccine pick-up hours outlined on the [Vaccine Distribution Schedule](#)
 - 1) **Halton Regional Centre** 1151 Bronte Rd., Oakville, L6M 3L1
Facilities Service Counter (Room E2-15B)
 - Tuesdays between 0900-1130 (South distribution weeks only)
 - Wednesdays between 0900-1330
 - 2) **Health@280** 280 Guelph St., Unit 76, Georgetown, L7G 4B1
 - Tuesdays between 0900-1300 (North distribution weeks only)

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

- Non-reusable influenza vaccines include vaccines that are expired, nearing expiry, have been exposed to a cold chain excursion and are deemed no longer viable by Public Health, and / or unable to be used due to reduced uptake.
- Non-reusable influenza vaccines in multi-dose vials that are returned to Public Health must be whole/unpunctured. Partial/punctured multi-dose vials must be disposed of at your facility as per [Regulation and Guidelines by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change](#) for biomedical waste.
- To return, place non-reusable influenza vaccines in a secure bag. Label the bag with your Facility Name, **Holding Point Code (HAL_OK_XXXXX)** and mark it as "WASTE."
- Document all vaccine waste on the [Non-Reusable Vaccine Return Record](#) and staple it to the outside of the bag.
- The Ministry of Health is encouraging all UIIP participants to **maintain minimal stock** of influenza vaccines in cold chain to accommodate individuals who are seeking influenza immunization between April and August (e.g., travel to southern hemisphere).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Universal Influenza Immunization Program \(UIIP\), Ministry of Health](#)

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) (only report COVID-19 cases occurring in high-risk settings) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY TO ALL PHYSICIANS IN YOUR OFFICE AND/OR POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES. IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH THIS ATTACHMENT, PLEASE EMAIL DOCTORS@HALTON.CA.