



## Preparing for Fall and Winter in Northern Ontario: Vaccine Resources and More

As family physicians, nurse practitioners and primary care providers across Northern Ontario begin planning for the Influenza season in the midst of COVID19, consider consulting the following resources that are shared here to help answer some of your questions and get you started.

It is anticipated that Influenza vaccines will be available by end of October and each practice setting is encouraged to connect with your local health unit to clarify whether your health unit will be offering Influenza immunization clinics this year. Influenza vaccines will also be offered through many pharmacies in Ontario this fall.

### Setting up Influenza clinics in primary care:

For some guidance on safety in the office when setting up office flu clinics, this document is a helpful resource:

*Guidance for influenza vaccine delivery in the presence of COVID-19*

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/guidance-influenza-vaccine-delivery-covid-19.html>

Public Health Ontario has a website with multiple Influenza guidance documents:

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/influenza>

### Drive through clinics:

Australia is ahead of us in their Influenza season with guidance for drive through flu vaccines that could be considered for some of our office settings:

*Drive-in immunization clinics: Advice for providers during COVID-19 response:*

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Documents/drive-in-flu-vaccination-clinics.pdf>

Guidelines are also available from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

*Considerations for planning curbside/drive-through vaccination clinics:*

And from the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/downloads/curbside-vaccination-clinics.pdf>

### Planning for the fall and winter:

The Centre of Effective Practice (CEP) has compiled helpful resources relevant to planning fall and winter clinical activities.

*Primary care operations in the COVID-19 context:*

<https://tools.cep.health/tool/pc-ops-covid-19-context/#wave-2-planning-for-fall-and-winter>



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### **Workplace accommodations:**

As you may encounter questions about who should have workplace accommodations and how to provide this information to workplaces, the Ontario College of Family Practice (OCFP) has compiled resources with helpful guidance from a variety of medical societies (Canadian Thoracic Society, Diabetes Canada, Heart and Stroke):

*Patient requests for work accommodations: Information for family doctors:*

<https://www.ontariofamilyphysicians.ca/tools-resources/covid-19-resources/high-risk-conditions-workplace-accom.pdf>

If you interested is watching the OCFP/University of Toronto webinar describing these resources, visit the following link which also includes prior COVID-19 Webinars:

<https://www.dfcm.utoronto.ca/covid-19-community-practice>

Your questions are welcome. On behalf of the Northern Ontario Primary Care Network Planning Group,

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