

April 26, 2023; Vol. 16, No. 11

<p><b>IN THIS ISSUE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP): 2022/2023 Influenza Return</b></li> <li>▪ <b>REMINDER: COVID-19 Vaccine Spring 2023 Campaign</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>FROM:</b> Nicholas Brandon, MD, MA, MSc, CCFP, FRCPC Acting Medical Officer of Health</p>
---	---

<p><b>Key Messages:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Peel Public Health is now accepting expired and excess Influenza vaccine returns.</li> <li>▪ COVID-19 Spring 2023 Campaign is underway.</li> </ul>
---

## Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP): 2022/2023 Influenza Return

Please return **all** expired and excess influenza vaccine(s) to the Region of Peel - Public Health by **May 31, 2023**.

### Vaccine Return Process

1. Complete Section B of the *Vaccine Cold Chain and/or Wastage Report* available at: <https://peelregion.ca/health/professionals/pdfs/v-07-739.pdf>
2. Place the completed *Vaccine Cold Chain and/or Wastage Report* along with the returned vaccine(s) in a sealed or stapled bag.
3. Vaccines being returned as unusable or expired **DO NOT** need to be returned in **cold chain**.
4. Return vaccines to any of these locations:
  - Hurontario - 7120 Hurontario Street, Mississauga (Monday to Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM)
  - Fairview - 325 Central Parkway West, Unit 21, Mississauga (Monday to Friday: 9:00AM to 4:00 PM)
  - Brampton - 150 Central Park Drive, Suite 9 Brampton (Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM; closed 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM)

**NOTE:** If you are part of the vaccine delivery program, vaccines can be returned via the courier.

If you continue to receive requests for influenza vaccine for the 2022/2023 season, consider maintaining a **minimal stock** of influenza vaccine (with careful attention to expiry dates) in cold chain to accommodate these requests.

### REMINDER:

Other publicly funded vaccines that are deemed unusable (e.g., affected by a cold chain failure) or expired should be returned to Region of Peel - Public Health as soon as possible.

For additional support, call the Vaccine Order Desk at (905) 791-7800 ext. 6404 or email: [VMPIOrderRequests@peelregion.ca](mailto:VMPIOrderRequests@peelregion.ca)

### REMINDER: COVID-19 Vaccine Spring 2023 Campaign

This spring, the recommendation for high-risk groups is to be offered a bivalent booster at a minimum interval of six months from last COVID-19 dose or infection. Encourage high-risk groups in your practice to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations.

These groups include:

- Individuals 65 years and older
- Residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, and residents living in other congregate settings or those with complex medical needs
- Individuals 18 years and older with moderate to severe immunocompromising conditions
- Pregnant individuals

- Individuals 55 years and older who identify as First Nations, Inuit or Métis and their non-Indigenous household members 55 years and older

**Physicians are encouraged to:**

- Onboard to receive COVID-19 vaccines:  
<https://www.peelregion.ca/health/professionals/tools/vaccinations-at-care-site.htm>
- To order COVID-19 vaccine, if onboarded:  
[www.peelregion.ca/covid-19-vaccine-order/](http://www.peelregion.ca/covid-19-vaccine-order/)
- Refer patients to:  
<https://peelregion.ca/coronavirus/vaccine/book-appointment/> for more information on booking a COVID-19 vaccine appointment