

 <b>Lakeridge Health</b>	<b>Administration of Influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccines to Adult Inpatients – Medical Directive</b>	
	Manual: Medical Directives & Delegated Controlled Acts	Original Date: 27JAN2026
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Cross Reference to:		
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## Authorizing Prescribers

All Lakeridge Health Most Responsible Practitioner (MRP) for the following Sections:

- Healthy Aging
- Medicine
- Surgery
- Critical Care
- Emergency Departments
- Women's and Children
- Hemodialysis or Peritoneal Dialysis
- Oncology
- Mental Health

## Authorized to Whom

All Lakeridge Health nurses working on an inpatient unit with the knowledge, skill and judgement who are trained to administer intramuscular (IM) treatments.

## Patient Description/Population

Any Lakeridge Health adult patient/client/resident (18 years or older) who meets the criteria listed in the indications of this medical directive.

## Order and/or Procedure

Prior to the start of respiratory season, the Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) and/or the Vaccine working group will communicate to the nurses when to start reviewing their patients/clients/residents for eligibility. The nurse will identify patients/clients/residents who

meet eligibility criteria using the [Order Table Form](#) and complete the influenza and/or respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) order following the procedure below.

1. Provide patient/client/resident with information factsheet regarding the benefits and risks of receiving or not receiving the vaccine. Seasonal up-to-date patient information factsheets such as the *Information about your Flu and RSV Vaccines factsheet* are available on the Infection Prevention and Control OASIS page.
2. After reviewing the information, the nurse will obtain consent from the patient/client/resident or substitute decision maker (SDM).
3. Perform relevant assessment of allergy status, present health and current medications.
4. Explain the procedure, the risks, side effects, and precautions found on the consent form.
5. Ensure there are no contraindications to vaccination with influenza and/or RSV vaccine as found on the decision form.
6. Enter order as outlined in Documentation Requirement section below
7. Administer the influenza and/or RSV vaccine dosage as indicated in the [Order Table](#) intramuscularly into the deltoid muscle.

### **Indications to the Implementation of the Directive**

Any patient/client/resident with the indication as listed in the [Order Table Form](#).

### **Contraindications to the Implementation of the Directive**

The medical directive must not be implemented in the following circumstances:

- Patient/client/resident or SDM refuses to consent to vaccines
- Influenza Vaccine:
  - Persons with a history of serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of influenza vaccine
  - Persons with proven immediate or anaphylactic hypersensitivity to any ingredient in the vaccine, except for egg.
- RSV Vaccine:
  - If the patient/client/resident has confirmation that they received RSV vaccine or based on the most up to date current Ministry of Health Ontario recommendations.
  - If patients/clients/residents are sick with severe acute illness they should wait until symptoms have lessened.
  - If patients/clients/residents have had a solid-organ or stem cell transplant. Should wait to receive at the discretion of the provider.

### **Consent**

The nurse implementing the medical directive must obtain consent if the patient/client/resident is capable of providing it or from the appropriate SDM.

- The nurse to review vaccine information, contraindications, precautions and side effects with the patient/client/resident or SDM prior to obtaining consent.
- The nurse must obtain consent from the patient/client/resident or SDM to influenza

and/or RSV vaccine prior to entering the order for medical directive.

- The recipient will provide their consent which is documented electronically in the patient/client/resident's EHR under the immunization section for influenza and/or RSV vaccination after reviewing the vaccine information, contraindications, precautions, and side effects of the vaccine.
- If there are further questions or concerns, the nurse to refer the patient/client/resident or SDM to speak to the MRP for further information.
- For patients/clients/residents or SDMs who do not consent, document the consent refusal in the EHR.

## **Documentation Requirements**

### **Ordering documentation**

The nurse implementing this directive must ensure the following is documented in the specific order within the patient/client/resident's EHR:

- The name of the nurse as the Ordering Provider.
- The name of the Authorizing Provider.
- The full name of the medical directive in the comment section of the order; i.e., as per Administration of the Influenza and RSV Vaccines to Adult Inpatients – Medical Directive.

### **Review/Evaluation Process**

This medical directive will be reviewed annually by Infection Prevention and Control.

## References

Durham Region Health Department. (2024). *Influenza*.

Durham Region. <https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/influenza-flu.aspx>  
<https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/influenza-flu.aspx>

Durham Region Health Department. (2024). *Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)*.

Durham Region. <https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/resources/Documents/IllnessInfectionDisease/FactsAbout/RSV-Vaccines.pdf>

Government of Canada. (2023). *Flu (influenza): For health professionals*.

Public Health Agency of Canada. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/flu-influenza/health-professionals.html>

Ministry of Health. (2024). *Health Care Provider Fact Sheet: Influenza Immunization for Individuals ≥ 65 years of age*.

Ontario. <https://www.ontario.ca/files/2024-09/moh-uiip-24-25-65-plus-fact-sheet-en-2024-09-25.pdf>  
<https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/influenza-flu.aspx>

Ministry of Health. (2024). *Older Adult High-Risk Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine Program Fact Sheet – Vaccine Recipients*.

Ontario. <https://www.ontario.ca/files/2024-08/moh-older-adult-high-risk-rsv-fact-sheet-v4-0-vaccine-recipients-en-2024-08-16.pdf>

Public Health Ontario. (2024). *Influenza (flu)*.

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion.  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/influenza>

\*\*\*This table must **not** be used independently apart from the Medical Directive\*\*\*

**Order Table Form**

Order	Indication	Contraindication	Notes (Optional)
Influenza vaccine IM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influenza vaccine intramuscular one dose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients/clients/residents who are not up to date with the annual influenza vaccine</li> <li>Pregnant patients/clients/residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients/Clients/Residents and/or SDM who have not consented</li> <li>Persons with a history of serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of influenza vaccine</li> <li>Persons with proven immediate or anaphylactic hypersensitivity to any ingredient in the vaccine, except for egg.</li> </ul>	
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine IM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adults aged 60-74 who meet indication and/or adults 75 years and up: Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine *Abrysvo (Bivalent recombinant protein subunit) 120 mcg/0.5 mL vaccine 0.5 mL intramuscular once</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adults aged 60-74 who meet indication</li> </ul>	Residents of long-term care homes, elder care lodges or retirement homes  Receiving alternate level of care (ALC) including those in complex continuing care  Patients with glomerulonephritis (GN) who are moderately to severely immunocompromised  Patients/clients/residents receiving hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients/Clients/residents and/or SDM who have not consented</li> <li>Patients/Clients/residents who have received the RSV vaccine or based on the most up to date Ministry of Health Ontario recommendations</li> <li>If patients/clients are sick with severe acute illness. Should wait until symptoms have lessened.</li> <li>If patients/clients/residents have had a previous RSV vaccine within the respiratory season or based on the most up to date Ministry of Health Ontario recommendations</li> <li>If patients/clients/residents have had a solid-organ or stem cell transplant. Should wait at the discretion of the provider.</li> </ul>	

<p>and/or adults 75 years and up: Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine Arexvy (Adjuvanted recombinant protein subunit) injection 120 mcg/0.5 mL intramuscular once</p>	<p>Recipients of solid organ or hematopoietic stem cell transplants</p> <p>Individuals who are homeless</p> <p>Individuals who identify as First Nations, Inuit or Metis</p> <p>* Pregnant individuals from 32 through 36 weeks gestational age who do not wish or are not able to protect their infant using the monoclonal antibody. Individuals outside this gestational age should discuss options with their Obstetrician/Midwife.</p>		
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