

Eligible medical conditions for funded influenza vaccination

Funded influenza vaccine is available each year for people who meet the following criteria set by PHARMAC:*

- people 65 years of age or older; or
- people under 65 years of age who:
 - have any of the following cardiovascular diseases:
 - ischaemic heart disease, or
 - congestive heart failure, or
 - rheumatic heart disease, or
 - congenital heart disease, or
 - cerebrovascular disease; or
 - have either of the following chronic respiratory diseases:
 - asthma, if on a regular preventative therapy, or
 - other chronic respiratory disease with impaired lung function;^a or
 - have diabetes; or
 - have chronic renal disease; or
 - have any cancer, please refer to the vaccine precaution below[#], excluding basal and squamous skin cancers if not invasive; or
 - have any of the following other conditions:
 - autoimmune disease,^b or
 - immune suppression or immune deficiency, or
 - HIV, or
 - transplant recipient, or
 - neuromuscular or CNS disease/disorder,^c or
 - haemoglobinopathy,^d or
 - children on long term aspirin, or
 - a cochlear implant, or
 - error of metabolism at risk of major metabolic decompensation, or
 - pre- or post-splenectomy, or
 - Down syndrome, or
 - pregnant women (any trimester); or
 - children aged 4 years or under who have been hospitalised for respiratory illness or have a history of significant respiratory illness;
- people under 18 years of age living in the:
 - Seddon/Ward and rural Eastern Marlborough region (within the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board), or
 - Kaikoura and Hurunui areas (within the Canterbury District Health Board) or
 - who have been displaced from their homes in Edgumbe and the surrounding region

Unless meeting the criteria set out above, the following conditions are excluded from funding:

- asthma not requiring regular preventative therapy,
- hypertension and/or dyslipidaemia without evidence of end-organ disease

*Eligibility criteria as at March 2018.²²

#New influenza vaccination precaution

Influenza vaccination may be contraindicated or need to be delayed for people receiving some new cancer treatments. Please read the information under *Contraindications and precautions to receiving influenza vaccine* on page 16 for people receiving atezolizumab (Tecentriq[®]), ipilimumab (Yervoy[®]), nivolumab (Opdivo[®]) and pembrolizumab (Keytruda[®]) and contact the person's oncologist or 0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863) for current advice about influenza vaccination for these people BEFORE administering the vaccine.

For vaccination eligibility queries call 0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863)

- Chronic respiratory diseases include: chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cystic fibrosis, emphysema.
- Autoimmune diseases may include: coeliac disease, Crohn's disease, Grave's disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis. Immune suppression or immune deficiency includes disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs) or targeted biologic therapies.
- Neuromuscular and CNS diseases/disorders include: cerebral palsy, congenital myopathy, epilepsy, hydrocephaly, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, myasthenia gravis, Parkinson's disease.
- Haemoglobinopathies include: sickle cell anaemia, thalassaemia.