



Backgrounder

Facts about this Year's Influenza vaccine

- Vaccinations to protect against four strains of this year's influenza virus are free of charge.
- The flu immunization this year will cover two A strains of influenza (H1N1 and H3N2) and two B strains of influenza (Brisbane and Phuket).

Last Year's Influenza Season in Saskatoon Health Region

It should be noted that the incidence of influenza is often underreported since the illness may be confused with other viral illnesses and many people with influenza do not seek medical care or have viral diagnostic testing done.

- Lab confirmed influenza cases* – 661
- Number of ED visits for ILI (influenza-like illness) – 274
- Number of hospitalizations – 115
- Number of ICU admissions – 6
- Number of deaths – 3

Last Year's Influenza Immunization Coverage – Saskatoon Health Region

- 2016/17 - 27%
- 2015/16 - 28%

Saskatoon Health Region Employees Immunizations

- 2016/17: 60.5 % of total staff immunized
- 2015/16: 64%
- 2014/15: 94.89%*
- 2013/14: 70.5%

*(*Saskatchewan's Immunize or Mask policy was in effect for the 2014-15 influenza season.)*