

# 2021 Eligible conditions for funded influenza vaccination

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

**1. People 65 years of age or older; or**

**2. 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;<sup>a</sup> or
- have diabetes; or
- have chronic renal disease; or
- have any cancer, excluding basal and squamous skin cancers if not invasive; or
- have any of the following other conditions:
  - autoimmune disease,<sup>b</sup> or
  - immune suppression or immune deficiency, or
  - HIV, or
  - transplant recipient, or
  - neuromuscular or CNS disease/disorder,<sup>c</sup> or
  - haemoglobinopathy,<sup>d</sup> or
  - children on long-term aspirin, or
  - a cochlear implant, or
  - pregnant women (any trimester); or
  - error of metabolism at risk of major metabolic decompensation, or
  - pre- or post-splenectomy, or
  - Down syndrome, or
- pregnant women (any trimester); or

**3. Children aged 4 years or under who have been hospitalised for respiratory illness or have a history of significant respiratory illness**

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

*\*New Zealand  
Pharmaceutical Schedule.  
Available at  
[www.pharmac.govt.nz](http://www.pharmac.govt.nz).*

*a. Chronic respiratory diseases include: chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cystic fibrosis, emphysema.*

*b. 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.*

*c. Neuromuscular and CNS diseases/disorders include: cerebral palsy, congenital myopathy, epilepsy, hydrocephaly, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, myasthenia gravis, Parkinson's disease, spinal cord injury.*

*d. Haemoglobinopathies include: sickle cell anaemia, thalassaemia.*

**fightflu.co.nz**



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