



Primary Care Update

A monthly newsletter for healthcare practitioners in Grey-Bruce

Issue #33

November 2025

Ontario's measles outbreak over; return to routine immunization schedule for MMR vaccine

- The Ontario Ministry of Health officially declared the measles outbreak over on Oct. 6, 2025.
- Because of this, outbreak immunization strategies for highly impacted public health units, including Grey Bruce Public Health, have also ended and the [routine immunization schedule](#) should be followed province-wide.
- Primary Care Providers are urged to remain vigilant to the importation and potential spread of additional cases in Ontario and continue to promote and administer vaccines, assess and report cases, and manage contacts expeditiously.

New tools, resources available for 2025-26 fall respiratory illness season

- The Canada Communicable Disease Report includes a [summary of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization's seasonal influenza vaccine statement for 2025-26](#).
- Public Health Ontario has enhanced its [Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool](#) to include weekly key highlights as well as expanded indicators, including ICU bed occupancy for influenza and RSV, hospital admissions for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, and a combined bed occupancy view for COVID-19, influenza and RSV. A full summary of the new enhancements is available at the following link: [ORVT Updates](#).
- PHO has also updated its [Integrated Respiratory Virus Risk Indicators Report](#), which provides short-term projections of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV activity, and risk of hospitalization for across pediatric, adult, and senior age groups.
- Immunize Canada has created a [public-facing information sheet](#) explaining why patients need a flu shot each year.

GBPH shares vaccine reminder for fall respiratory illness season

- Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are now available for the general public. Anyone six months and up who lives, works, or attends school in Ontario can receive the vaccines.
- RSV season is upon us. RSV protection is available to infants, certain high-risk children, and older adults.
- **RSV PROTECTION FOR INFANTS AND HIGH-RISK CHILDREN.** Under Ontario's infant RSV program, two products can be used for preventing disease among infants and young children during RSV season.
 - **Beyfortus** is a monoclonal antibody given to infants up to 8 months of age just before or during their first RSV season or high-risk children up to 24 months of age in their second season; OR
- **Abrysvo** is an RSV vaccine that can be given to pregnant individuals to subsequently protect their infants through passive immunity. Arexvy is NOT to be used for pregnant individuals.
 - *NACI preferentially recommends the use of Beyfortus over Abrysvo for protection for infants and high-risk children.*
 - *Infants born on or after April 1, 2025, who are less than 8 months old may receive Beyfortus up to the end of RSV season.*
 - *Children up to 24 months of age who meet the high-risk criteria may receive Beyfortus in their second RSV season.*
 - *Infants born in hospital during RSV season will be offered this in hospital. Other infants and children should receive this through their primary care provider.*
 - See [Infants and High-Risk Children Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Prevention Program Factsheet for Health Care Providers](#) for additional information.
- **RSV PROTECTION FOR OLDER ADULTS.** The Ontario government has expanded the older adult RSV prevention program to include all individuals aged 75 years and up. This is an expansion of last year's program, which also includes certain high-risk adults aged 60-74 years (see fact sheet for high-risk criteria). This vaccine will NOT be available through pharmacies. Primary care providers will be the main source for community-dwelling older adults to receive the vaccine. The 2 products available for older adults are Arexvy and Abrysvo.
 - *If an individual has previously received an RSV vaccine, they don't need another dose this season as booster doses are not currently recommended.*
 - See [Older Adult High-Risk Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccine Program Factsheet for Health Care Providers](#) for additional information.

Resources for Primary Care Professionals

Reference Documents/Tools

- Immunize Canada is inviting healthcare providers to participate in an [online survey](#) that encourages clinicians to share their perspectives and experiences related to vaccination, harassment, and moral distress during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Webinars

- Nov. 12, 2025, 9:30-11 a.m. - PHO Webinar, [Digital Support in Intimate Partner Violence Care: Exploring the iHeal App](#). Intended audience includes healthcare professionals working with pregnant people.
 - This presentation introduces the iHeal app, a trauma- and violence-informed digital tool designed to support women with experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV).

Grey Bruce Public Health Media Releases: October 2025

- Oct. 16, 2025 - [GBPH encouraging residents to protect themselves from respiratory viruses this fall](#)