

Panorama Bulletin

Bulletin #0067: Vaccine Forecaster – Update to Influenza Immunization Rules

eHealth Saskatchewan

October 23, 2017

Version 1

Issue Overview

The Influenza rules have been updated in Panorama's Forecaster tool, just in time for the start of influenza season.

The old rules with the old problems, e.g., forecasting due for infants less than 6 months and failing to validate what were in fact valid doses, have been replaced with a new and improved set of rules. The new rules have been tested by eHealth Saskatchewan and then reviewed by the Vaccine Forecaster user group.

Resolution

With the new rules in place you should find:

- Influenza vaccine will be forecast for newborns, showing them eligible when they are 6 months old;
- The very first time a child under the age of nine receives the vaccine, a second dose will be forecast for 4 weeks later;
- Only children up to 9 years old will be forecast for a regular annual dose, eligible and due on Oct 1 and overdue on Dec 31;
- Injectable flu vaccine doses will validate, but not forecast for all over 9 years of age;
- Intranasal flu vaccine doses will validate, but not forecast for all 2 to 59 years of age; and
- If a child is 8 years, 11 months old, a 2nd dose will not forecast, as the forecaster will no longer engage at 9 years less 1 day.

There is one problem with the rules that we are aware of – in the rare situation where a child has received an invalid *FluMist* dose, followed by a first valid Influenza immunization, the Forecaster will not correctly forecast a second dose. This problem will be fixed in the next cycle of improvements to the Forecaster.

As always, the Forecaster is a clinical tool to support practice but can never be replaced by your own professional expertise.

If you notice any other issues with the Forecaster, please speak with your Immunization Supervisor, who will determine if a Vaccine Forecaster Issue Report form needs to be completed and submitted.

Thank you.

Contact

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the eHealth Service Desk at 1-888-316-7446 or by email at servicedesk@ehealthsask.ca.