



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

## Ministry of Health

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

4-6 Queens Park East, Port of Spain 101002

M E D I A R E L E A S E

October 04<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Ministry of Health receives 75,000 doses of the Influenza Vaccine (2023/2024)

**Port-of-Spain, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** The Ministry of Health received 75,000 doses of the (2023/2024) Influenza vaccine on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2023. The vaccine will be available to members of the public at no cost, at all Health Centres from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. This vaccine is a quadrivalent vaccine, as such it contains the following four (4) strains of the Influenza Virus:

- Influenza A (H1N1)
- Influenza A (H3N2)
- Influenza B (Austria) – Victoria Lineage
- Influenza B (Phuket) – Yamagata Lineage

The Influenza season runs from October 2023 to May 2024 in Trinidad and Tobago. The Ministry of Health takes this opportunity to encourage all eligible persons to get vaccinated as soon as possible. It is underscored at this time that persons belonging to the following high-risk groups may be prone to develop a more severe illness if they contract the Influenza virus:

- Children aged 6 months to 5 years.
- Adults 60 years of age and over.
- Pregnant women.
- Persons suffering from Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) (e.g. Diabetes, Hypertension, Heart Disease) regardless of their age.
- Persons with compromised immune systems (e.g. persons with Lupus, certain Cancer patients).
- Persons with chronic respiratory illnesses (e.g. Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease).
- Healthcare workers.



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[www.health.gov.tt](http://www.health.gov.tt)



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Members of the public are asked to contact their nearest Health Centre or visit the Ministry of Health's social media pages or website ([www.health.gov.tt](http://www.health.gov.tt)) for further information on the Influenza virus and the vaccination schedules.

The Ministry of Health remains committed to ensuring the health and well-being of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

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