



MAINTAINING INVESTMENT FOR VACCINES IN CANADA

THE ISSUE

New vaccines approved by Health Canada and recommended by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization are not reaching Canadians and as a result vaccine-preventable diseases continue to unnecessarily impact the public and healthcare costs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Vaccines present a solution to increased healthcare costs and improved health outcomes for Canadians.
- Renew federal funding for immunization programs in the form of a permanent trust fund tied to the expansion of the National Immunization Strategy goals, to ensure new vaccine technologies can be incorporated into public vaccine programs.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR UNIVERSAL ACCESS

	Vaccine Preventable Disease	NACI Approval	Full Provincial Implementation	Universal Canadian Access
2004 Federal Funding	Varicella	May 1999	2006	✓
	Adult Pertussis	May 2000	2004	✓
	Meningococcal C conjugate	Oct 2001	2005	✓
	Pneumococcol conjugate	Jan 2002	2004	✓
2007 Federal Funding	Human Papillomavirus, HPV	Feb 2007	2008	✓
No Federal Funding	Rotavirus	Jan 2008	x	x
	Meningococcol conjugate	April 2009	x	x
	Zoster	Jan 2010	x	x





BACKGROUND

- In the last 50 years, immunization has saved more lives in Canada than any other health intervention and is widely recognized as among the best investments in health. Conversely, vaccines represented under 0.3% of national health care expenditures in 2008.
- Vaccines present a solution to increased healthcare cost to support improved health outcomes for Canadians.
- Previous rounds of federal funding in vaccines (2003, 2007) resulted in the creation of universal immunization programs across Canada.
- Reverting back to the late 1990s, where disparities across jurisdictions resulted in inequitable access to vaccine- preventable diseases is a real risk.
- New, exciting vaccines on the market and near-term horizon include vaccines that protect against: meningitis, pneumonia, rotavirus-caused diarrhea, herpes, Hepatitis C, malaria, AIDS, pulmonary tuberculosis, cancers, and degenerative diseases (Alzheimer's).

VACCINES BEING DEVELOPED IN CANADA

Vaccine	Developer	Location
DPX-0907 [Therapeutic cancer vaccine, based on DepoVax TM platform]	Immunovaccine Inc.	Halifax
H5N1 pandemic vaccine [Adjuvanted plant-made H5 virus-like particle (VLP) vaccine]	Medicago Inc.	Quebec City
Variosite TM Technology (synthetic peptide technology)	Variation Biotechnologies Inc.	Ottawa
Plant-based subunit vaccine	PlantForm Corporation	Guelph
Therapeutic vaccines (targeting misfolded protein superoxide dismutase, SOD1)	Amorfix Life Sciences Ltd.	Mississauga

