INDICATIONS FOR INFLUENZA VACCINE – 2011/12

**People at high risk of influenza-related complications or hospitalization**

- Adults (including pregnant women) and children with the following chronic health conditions:
  - cardiac or pulmonary disorders (including bronchopulmonary dysplasia, cystic fibrosis and asthma);
  - diabetes mellitus and other metabolic diseases;
  - cancer, immune compromising conditions (due to underlying disease and/or therapy);
  - renal disease;
  - anemia or hemoglobinopathy;
  - conditions that compromise the management of respiratory secretions and are associated with an increased risk of aspiration;
  - morbid obesity (BMI $\geq 40$); and
  - children and adolescents with conditions treated for long periods with acetylsalicylic acid.
- People of any age who are residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities.
- People $\geq 65$ years of age.
- Healthy children 6 to 23 months of age.
- Healthy pregnant women (the risk of influenza-related hospitalization increases with length of gestation, i.e. it is higher in the third than in the second trimester)
- Aboriginal peoples.

**People capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk**

- Health care and other care providers in facilities and community settings who, through their activities, are capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk of influenza complications.
- Household contacts (adults and children) of individuals at high risk of influenza-related complications (whether or not the individual at high risk has been immunized):
  - household contacts of individuals at high risk, as listed in the section above;
  - household contacts of infants $<6$ months of age as these infants are at high risk of complications from influenza but cannot receive influenza vaccine; and
  - members of a household expecting a newborn during the influenza season.
· Those providing regular child care to children <24 months of age, whether in or out of the home.
· Those who provide services within closed or relatively closed settings to persons at high risk (e.g. crew on a ship).

**Others**

· People who provide essential community services.
· People in direct contact during culling operations with poultry infected with avian influenza.
· Persons at high-risk of influenza complications embarking on travel to destinations where influenza is likely to be circulating.

* Note: Healthy persons aged 2 to 64 years without contraindication are also encouraged to receive influenza vaccine even if they are not in one of the priority groups.