

Annual Flu Vaccine Update

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that there were approximately 30.9 million influenza illnesses, 14.5 million influenza-associated medical visits, and 600,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations across all age groups during the 2016-2017 flu season.¹ The CDC's interim vaccine effectiveness report for 2017-18 estimated a 36% reduction in the risk of flu-related doctor visits in both children and adults who received the flu vaccination, resulting in reductions in flu-related illnesses, antibiotic use, time lost from work, hospitalizations, and death.²

Vaccine Updates and Recommendations for the 2018-19 Influenza Season³

- **Trivalent vaccines** will contain: A/Michigan/45/2015 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, A/Singapore/INFIMH-16-0019/2016 (H3N2)-like virus, and B/Colorado/06/2017-like (Victoria lineage) virus.
- **Quadrivalent vaccines** will include an additional strain: B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (Yamagata lineage) virus.
- Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons age ≥ 6 months without contraindications.
- Children age 6 months - 8 years require 2 doses of influenza vaccine (the first administered as soon as possible after the vaccine becomes available, the second ≥ 4 weeks later) during their first season of vaccination to optimize immune response. Children who previously received ≥ 2 doses require only one dose for 2018-2019.
- LAIV4 (intranasal) is now a recommended option among nonpregnant persons age 2-49 years without contraindications.
- Persons with a history of egg allergy who have experienced only hives after exposure to egg should receive any licensed, recommended, age-appropriate flu vaccine such as IIV, RIV4 or LAIV4.
- Persons with a prior reaction to eggs other than hives, such as angioedema, respiratory distress, or recurrent emesis, or who required epinephrine or another emergency medical intervention, may also receive any licensed and recommended flu vaccine that is otherwise appropriate and should be vaccinated in an inpatient or outpatient medical setting supervised by a health care provider who is able to recognize and manage severe allergic conditions.
- A previous severe allergic reaction to influenza vaccine is a contraindication to future influenza vaccination.
- Vaccination should be offered for as long as influenza viruses are circulating, and unexpired vaccine is available.

Influenza Vaccine Products for the 2018-2019 Influenza Season³:

Vaccine	Trade Name	Age	Route*
<u>Quadrivalent IIV (IIV4s)</u>			
Inactivated Influenza Vaccine, Quadrivalent (IIV4), Standard Dose (15 mcg/0.5 mL)	Afluria Quadrivalent	≥ 5 yr [^]	IM
	Fluarix Quadrivalent	≥ 6 mo [^]	IM
	Flucelvax Quadrivalent (ccIIV4) [†]	≥ 4 yr	IM
	Flulaval Quadrivalent	≥ 6 mo	IM
	Fluzone Quadrivalent	≥ 6 mo [*]	IM
Recombinant Influenza Vaccine, Quadrivalent (RIV4) (45 mcg/0.5 mL)	FluBlok [#]	≥ 18 yr	IM
Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine, Quadrivalent (LAIV4) (10 ^{6.5-7.5} ffu ⁰ /0.2 mL)	FluMist Quadrivalent	2-49 yr	IN
<u>Trivalent IIV (IIV3s)</u>			
Inactivated Influenza Vaccine, Trivalent (IIV3) Standard Dose, Intramuscular (15 mcg/0.5 mL)	Afluria	≥ 5 yr	IM
Adjuvanted Inactivated Influenza Vaccine, Trivalent (aIIV3), standard dose (15 mcg/0.5 mL)	Fluad	≥ 65 yr	IM
Inactivated Influenza Vaccine, Trivalent (HD-IIV3), High Dose (60 mcg/0.5 mL)	Fluzone High Dose	≥ 65 yr	IM

IM: Intramuscular, IN: Intranasal; [^]New age recommendation; [†]ccIIV: cell-culture based influenza vaccine; [#]Not prepared by propagation of virus in embryonated chicken eggs; ^{}Multidose vial indicated for ≥ 6 months, 0.25 mL single-dose syringe indicated for 6-35 months, ⁰fluorescent focus units

References:

1. Estimated Influenza Illnesses and Hospitalizations Averted by Vaccination in the United States. Published May 22, 2018. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/2016-17.htm>. Accessed August 22, 2018.
2. Interim Estimates of 2017-18 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness – United States, February 2018. Published February 15, 2018. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6706a2.htm>. Accessed August 22, 2018.
3. Grohskopf LA, Sokolow LZ, Broder KR, Walter EB, Fry AM, Jernigan DB. Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices—United States, 2018–19 Influenza Season. MMWR Recomm Rep 2018;67(No. RR-3):1–20. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.rr6703a1>. Accessed August 23, 2018.

The CalOptima Approved Drug List is available on our website: www.caloptima.org
and for smart phone download at www.epocrates.com