

Update on Influenza Vaccination

Overcoming Barriers and Tailoring Vaccine Selection

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Influenza: The Virus

- Orthomyxoviridae virus
- Key components
 - Hemagglutinin
 - Viral attachment to cell
 - Membrane fusion
 - Neuraminidase
 - Facilitates virus movement
 - Prevents aggregation of newly-formed virus particles

Treanor JT. Influenza. In: Mandell GL, ed. *Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases*. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2010: 2265-2288.

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Epidemiological Terms

- Antigenic drift
 - Amino acid point mutations in hemagglutinin or neuraminidase
 - Seasonal epidemics
- Antigenic shift
 - Large genetic changes lead to emergence of serologically new viruses to which population has no immunity
 - Pandemic flu

CDC. *MMWR Recomm Rep*. 2013; 62(7): 1-43.
Treanor JT. Influenza. In: Mandell GL, ed. *Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases*. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2010: 2265-2288.

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Influenza Transmission

- Spread by contact with respiratory secretions
- Virus attaches to and penetrates columnar epithelial cells of respiratory tract
- Incubation period of 18–72 hours
- Virus remains detectable for 5–10 days

Treanor JT. Influenza. In: Mandell GL, ed. *Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases*. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2010: 2265-2288.

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Major Influenza Pandemics

Year	Strain	Deaths
1918	Spanish Influenza (H1N1)	50 million deaths worldwide
1957	Asian flu (H2N2)	~70,000 deaths in U.S.
1968	Hong Kong flu (H3N2)	~34,000 deaths in U.S.
2009	Swine flu (H1N1)	~9,000-18,000 deaths

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Influenza Pandemics. Available at: <https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/influenza-pandemics>.

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Symptoms of INFLUENZA

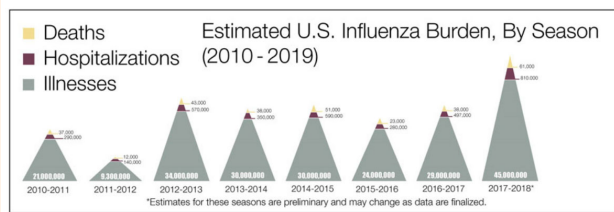
Is it Flu or COVID-19?

Some of the symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, making it hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. Diagnostic testing can help determine if you are sick with the flu or COVID-19.

CDC. Flu Symptoms & Complications. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/seasonal/symptoms.htm>.

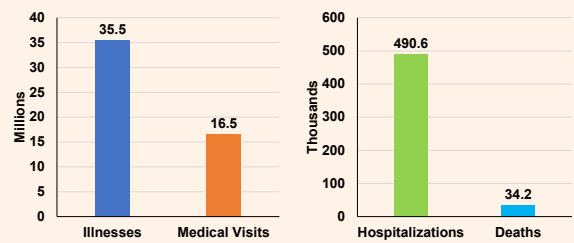
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Impact of Influenza



CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/index.html>.

2018-2019 Influenza Season



CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/2018-2019.html>.

Influenza Vaccine Priorities

- **ALL 6+ MONTHS WANTING TO PREVENT INFLUENZA**
- **HEALTHCARE WORKERS**
 - High risk for disease (symptomatic and asymptomatic)
 - High risk for transmission
 - If sick, not available to provide healthcare...
- **PATIENTS @ Highest Risk (severe illness/spread)**
 - Pregnant women
 - Newborns and children
 - Elderly
 - "Medical Comorbidities"
 - Household contacts of high-risk
 - Long-term care, institutionalized, crowded living conditions

Does this sound like your patients? That's why YOU need a vaccine.

CDC. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/mmwr6703a1.htm?_c=mm6703a1_w.

Patients at High Risk for Influenza Complications

- Adults 65+
- Children <2yo
- Asthma
- Neurologic conditions
- Blood disorders
- Chronic lung disease
- Endocrine disorders
- Heart diseases
- Kidney diseases
- Liver disorders
- Metabolic disorders
- Obesity (BMI>40 kg/m²)
- Weakened immune system
- Pregnant women
- Native Americans/Alaska Natives
- Nursing home residents
- Long-term care residents

CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/index.htm>.

Consequences and Complications

- Increased work/school absenteeism
- Fever, cough, myalgia
- Laryngotracheobronchitis
- **Secondary Bacterial Pneumonia:**
 - Uncomplicated influenza illness followed by 4–14 days of improvement
 - Recurrence of fever, cough, sputum production
 - New consolidation on chest X-ray
 - Likely pathogens: *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *S. aureus*
- Myositis: elevated creatine kinase and myoglobinuria
- Myocarditis and pericarditis
- Reye's syndrome: post-viral encephalopathy that occurs in children
- Hospitalization and death

Treanor JT. Influenza. In: Mandell GL, ed. *Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases*. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2010: 2265-2288. Cate TR. *Am J Med*. 1987;82:15-19.

Annals of Internal Medicine

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Acute Cardiovascular Events Associated With Influenza in Hospitalized Adults
A Cross-sectional Study
Eric J. Chow, MD; Melissa A. Roffes, PhD; Alicia O'Halloran, MSPH; Evan J. Anderson, MD; Nancy M. Bennett, MD

- 80,261 adults with confirmed flu & complete medical record abstraction
- Median age 69 (IQR 54 – 81)
- 11.7% with an acute cardiovascular event
 - aHF 6.2%, aIHD 5.7%
- Increase risk with:
 - Age, tobacco use, previous CV disease, diabetes, renal disease

aHF, acute heart failure; aIHD, acute ischemic heart disease
Chow EJ, et al. *Ann Intern Med*. 2020;doi: 10.7326/M20-1609 [Online ahead of print].

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The Journal of Infectious Diseases
MAJOR ARTICLE

Prevention of Influenza Hospitalization Among Adults in the United States, 2015–2016: Results From the US Hospitalized Adult Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Network (HAIVEN)

Jill M. Ferdinands,¹ Marjolein Grais,² Emily T. Martin,³ Don Middleton,⁴ Arnold S. Meltz,⁵ Kompreya Morley,⁶ Fernando P. Silveira,⁷ H. Keipp Talbot,⁸

- 236 cases, 1231 controls, mean age 58 years, H1N1 year
- 90% with 1 or more comorbidities
- Vaccination **halved** the risk of influenza-associated hospitalization

Ferdinands JM, et al. *J Infect Dis.* 2019;220:1265. <https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jy723>

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Moderate to Severe Influenza Complications

- Pneumonia
- Myocarditis
- Encephalitis
- Myositis, rhabdomyolysis
- Multi-organ failure
- Sepsis
- Exacerbation of chronic medical conditions

CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/symptoms.html#complications>.

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Testing

Does the patient have signs and symptoms suggestive of influenza?
(eg, fever with cough or other suggestive respiratory symptoms, often with myalgias or headache. Note that some persons may have atypical presentations - especially elderly, infants, immunocompromised?)

Yes → Is the patient being admitted to hospital?
Yes → Test for influenza; start empiric antiviral treatment while results are pending^a
No → Will influenza testing results influence clinical management?^{a,b}
Yes → Test for influenza; start empiric antiviral treatment while results are pending^a
No → Influenza clinically diagnosed; start empiric antiviral treatment if the patient is in a high-risk group for influenza complications, has progressive disease, discharge home^c

No → Does the patient have atypical signs and symptoms or complications associated with influenza?
(atypical or less common or less specific presentations, eg, unexplained fever only or atypical with any respiratory symptoms especially in immunocompromised or high-risk patients, or complications of influenza such as pneumonia or others, or exacerbation of chronic conditions such as asthma, COPD, HF)
Yes → Will influenza testing results influence clinical management?^{a,b}
Yes → Test for influenza; start empiric antiviral treatment while results are pending^a
No → Influenza testing not indicated; consider other etiologies and treatments, discharge home

Uyeki TM, et al. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2019;68:e1-e47.

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Influenza Testing Methods

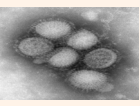
Testing Category	Method	Influenza Viruses Detected	Distinguishes Influenza A Virus Subtypes	Time to Results	Performance
Rapid molecular assay	Nucleic acid amplification	Influenza A or B viral RNA	No	15–30 minutes	High sensitivity; high specificity
Rapid influenza diagnostic test	Antigen detection	Influenza A or B virus antigens	No	10–15 minutes	Low to moderate sensitivity (higher with analyzer device); high specificity
Direct and indirect immunofluorescence assays	Antigen detection	Influenza A or B virus antigens	No	1–4 hours	Moderate sensitivity; high specificity
Molecular assays including RT-PCR	Nucleic acid amplification	Influenza A or B viral RNA	Yes, if subtype primers are used	1–6 hours	High sensitivity; high specificity
Multiplex molecular assays	Nucleic acid amplification	Influenza A or B viral RNA, other viral or bacterial targets (RNA or DNA)	Yes, if subtype primers are used	1–2 hours	High sensitivity; high specificity
Rapid cell culture (shell vial and cell culture)	Virus isolation	Influenza A or B virus	Yes	1–3 days	High sensitivity; high specificity
Viral culture (tissue cell culture)	Virus isolation	Influenza A or B virus	Yes	3–10 days	High sensitivity; high specificity

Uyeki TM, et al. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2019;68:e1-e47.

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The Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Changes Annually

- Egg-based vaccine production: ~9 months
- Strain choice (Feb) reflects antigenic drift [Prior season + Southern Hemisphere]
- US Vaccination season: Vaccine available to 'disease passed'...



CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm>

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The Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Changes Annually

- 2020–2021 trivalent **egg-based vaccines** are recommended to contain:
 - A/Guangdong-Maonan/SWL1536/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (updated)
 - A/Hong Kong/2671/2019 (H3N2)-like virus (updated)
 - B/Washington/02/2019 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus (updated)
- Quadrivalent **egg-based vaccines**, add B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (Yamagata lineage) virus.
- For 2020–2021, **cell- or recombinant-based vaccines** are recommended to contain:
 - A/Hawaii/70/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (updated)
 - A/Hong Kong/45/2019 (H3N2)-like virus (updated)
 - B/Washington/02/2019 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus (updated)
 - B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (Yamagata lineage) virus

CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm>.

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Available Influenza Vaccine Types

- Inactivated (IIV)
 - Quadrivalent (IIV4)
 - Standard dose egg based
 - High dose egg based
 - Adjuvanted (aIIV4)
 - Trivalent (IIV3)
 - Adjuvanted (aIIV3)
- Inactivated cell culture-based
 - Quadrivalent (ccIIV4)
- Recombinant
 - Quadrivalent (RIV4)
- Live Attenuated
 - Quadrivalent (LAIV4)

CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/acip/summary/summary-recommendations.htm#timing>.

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Influenza Vaccine Regular Dose

IIV4: 'Killed', injectable

- 6 months and older— Quadrivalent (IIV4)
- FDA-indicated ages may vary by manufacturer:
 - Practically speaking, these vaccines are for anyone who doesn't have a contraindication to influenza vaccine

IIV, Inactivated Influenza vaccine

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Influenza Vaccine High Dose

IIV4, high-dose (Fluzone® High-Dose)

- Contains 60 mcg each of the 4 influenza antigens (compared to 15 mcg each for regular IIV4)
 - Slightly higher rate of MILD reactions
- Indications: Patients ≥65 years
- Clinical trial had shown high-dose vaccine was 24.2% more effective in preventing influenza in adults ≥65 than the standard vaccine.

Fluzone High-Dose (Influenza Vaccine) Prescribing Information. Sanofi Pasteur Inc. Swiftwater, PA. July 2020.
DiazGranados CA, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2014;371:535-45.

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Influenza Vaccine Adjuvanted Vaccine

aIIV4, adjuvanted vaccine (Fluad®)

- Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine plus a proprietary adjuvant that is proposed to recruit immune cells at the site of injection and enhance antigen uptake
 - Results in potentially greater immunogenic response in elderly patients
- Indication: Patients ≥65 years
- Clinical trials show non-inferiority with IIV3 based on seroconversion and geometric mean titers
 - No data yet available that demonstrate decrease in influenza disease

Fluad® (influenza vaccine, adjuvanted) Prescribing Information. Seqirus, Inc., Holly Springs, NC. June 2020.
Fluad® Quadrivalent (influenza vaccine, adjuvanted) Prescribing Information. Seqirus, Inc., Holly Springs, NC. June 2020.

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Influenza Vaccine Cell-Cultured and Recombinant Vaccines

- ccIIV4 (Flucelvax® Quadrivalent)
 - In place of chicken eggs, uses animal cells (Canine Kidney) as host (reference strain obtained from virus originally grown in eggs); quadrivalent
 - Approved for ages ≥4 years
- RIV4 (Flublok®)
 - Recombinant vaccine— egg-free hemagglutinin influenza vaccine produced by recombinant DNA technology using a baculovirus (a virus that infects insects) that produces virus-like particles, hemagglutinin (vaccine of choice for true egg allergy)
 - Approved for ages ≥18 years
- Adverse events similar to other inactivated vaccines

Flucelvax® Quadrivalent (influenza vaccine) Prescribing Information. Seqirus, Inc., Holly Springs, NC. July 2020.
Flublok® (influenza vaccine) Prescribing Information. Protein Sciences Corp., Meriden, CT. September 2020.

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Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV4; FluMist®)

- Cold-adapted nasal vaccine; quadrivalent
- Licensed only for healthy people 2 through 49 years
- Approved by ACIP for 2020–21 flu season
 - Not recommended for 2016–17 and 2017–18 flu seasons
- Once again recommended as a first-line vaccine by American Academy of Pediatrics

FluMist® Quadrivalent (influenza vaccine live, intranasal) Prescribing Information. MedImmune, LLC, Gaithersburg, MD. August 2020.

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Alphabet Soup of Influenza Vaccines

- **IIV4:** Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (standard and high dose)
- **ccIIV4:** Cell culture-based
- **aIIV3 & 4** Tri & Quadrivalent Adjuvanted Inactivated Influenza Vaccine
- **RIV4** Recombinant Influenza Vaccine
- **LAIV4** Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine

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Vaccination: ACIP Recommendations

- **6 mos – 3 yrs**
 - FluLaval Quadrivalent
 - Fluarix Quadrivalent
 - Fluzone Quadrivalent
 - Afluria Quadrivalent
- **Pregnant Women (any trimester)**
 - IIV or RIV4
 - No LAIV
- **Immune Compromised**
 - No LAIV
- **Older Adults**
 - Get the vaccine
 - Which one? It's complicated...



CDC. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/57/mr5703a1.htm?_cid=rr5703a1_w.

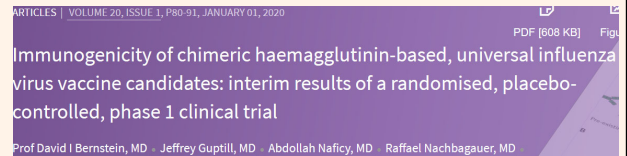
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Vaccination: What About Egg Allergy?

- Not a contraindication to any product
- Recommendation
 - Any history of severe allergic reaction to eggs warrants vaccination in a medical setting under the supervision of "a health care provider who is able to recognize and manage severe allergic conditions."
 - A previous severe reaction to any influenza vaccine is a contraindication.

CDC. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/57/mr5703a1.htm?_cid=rr5703a1_w.

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Brainstorming and Audience Participation

- How do you choose a vaccine type?
- Does it matter?

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Prepare Yourself: The Pregnancy/Vaccine Questions are Coming

- Study published in the September 25, 2017 issue of *Vaccine*
- Case-control, covered two influenza seasons (2010–11 and 2011–12)
- Spontaneous abortion was associated with receipt of influenza vaccination in the previous 28 days (adjusted OR 2.0 [95% CI, 1.1–3.6])
- No causal relationship established due to study size
- What has been established is the risk of *severe influenza-related consequences* to mother and fetus

Donahue JG, et al. *Vaccine*. 2017;35:5314-22.

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Influenza Vaccine Supply

- Many issues in prior years
- Current 2020-21 season projection
 - 194–198 million doses
 - Approximately 87% of doses will be thimerosal-free
 - Approximately 99% of doses will be quadrivalent
 - Approximately 80% of doses are produced with eggs

CDC. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaxsupply.htm>.

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Yes, vaccines may cause adverse effects

- But the most common thing they cause is...

Adults

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Case Exercise 1 Which vaccine for:

A 67-year-old man with type 2 diabetes mellitus and no history of egg allergy?

1. IIV4, standard
2. IIV4, high-dose (Fluzone High-Dose)
3. LAIV4
4. cclIV4 (Flucelvax)
5. Any of the above
6. 1, 2, or 4

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Case Exercise 1 Which vaccine for:

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5. Any of the above
6. 1, 2, or 4

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Case Exercise 2 Which vaccine for:

A 27-year-old woman with well-controlled asthma and hive-form reaction to eggs?

1. No vaccine
2. IIV4, standard
3. aIIV3 (Fluad)
4. RIV3 (Flublok)
5. 2, 3 or 4
6. 2 or 4 only

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6. 2 or 4 only

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Case Exercise 3

Which vaccine for:

A 17-year-old with history of severe allergic reaction (i.e., respiratory distress) to flu vaccine?

1. IIV4, standard
2. LAIV4
3. RIV3 (Flublok)
4. cclIV4 (Flucelvax)
5. No vaccine/refer to specialist
6. 3 or 4 only

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Which vaccine for:

A 17-year-old with history of severe allergic reaction (i.e., respiratory distress) to flu vaccine?

1. IIV4, standard
2. LAIV4
3. RIV3 (Flublok)
4. cclIV4 (Flucelvax)
5. No vaccine/refer to specialist
6. 3 or 4 only

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Case Exercise 4

Which vaccine for:

A 25-year-old woman in second trimester of pregnancy?

1. IIV4, standard
2. LAIV4
3. No vaccine until after birth
4. 1 or 2

Case Exercise 4

Which vaccine for:

A 25-year-old woman in second trimester of pregnancy?

1. IIV4, standard
2. LAIV4
3. No vaccine until after birth
4. 1 or 2

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