

INFLUENZA

Commonly known as the flu, influenza is a virus that infects the trachea (windpipe) or bronchi (breathing tubes). Symptoms come on suddenly and include high fever, chills, severe muscle aches and headache.

Who Should Get the Influenza Vaccine?



Almost everyone 6 months of age and older should get the influenza vaccine each year.

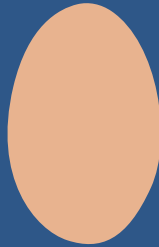
Dosing Exception:

Children younger than 8 years of age who did not have influenza vaccine before or have an uncertain influenza vaccine history require two doses.

Influenza Vaccine Types

Traditional Inactivated Vaccine

Contains whole influenza viruses that have been grown in eggs and inactivated (killed), so they can't cause influenza after vaccination.



Recombinant Influenza Vaccine

Only contains one protein from influenza virus, called hemagglutinin, so it can't cause influenza after vaccination.



Intranasal Influenza Vaccine

Contains live, weakened influenza virus that can reproduce in the nose but not the lungs, so it can't cause influenza after vaccination.



Cell Culture-based Influenza Vaccine

Vaccine virus is grown in cells in the lab instead of in eggs. The viruses are then inactivated (killed), so they can't cause influenza after vaccination.



Did You Know?

All influenza vaccines protect against 3 types of influenza!



Find out more!

GO TO [VACCINE.CHOP.EDU](https://vaccine.chop.edu) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Comparing Influenza Disease & Vaccine

Disease

VS

Vaccine



Typical Symptoms

- High fever
- Chills
- Muscle aches
- Headache
- Runny nose
- Cough

Symptoms of disease typically last 2-3 days.

Possible Complications

- Pneumonia
- Encephalitis
- Heart disease
- Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Death



Side Effects

- Pain, redness and swelling at the injection site
- Muscle aches
- Headache
- Low fever
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Mild congestion

Side effects after vaccination typically last 1-2 days.

Very Rare Side Effects

- Guillain-Barré syndrome



Find out more!

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