

Consent to Administer Inactivated (IIV) or Recombinant (RIV) Influenza Vaccine

According to the CDC "The 'inactivated' vaccine influenza VIS may be used for all non-live virus, injectable formulations (e.g., trivalent, quadrivalent, cell-culture, recombinant, intradermal, high-dose)"

Influenza (flu) is a contagious illness caused by viruses that affect people of all ages. Among other symptoms, influenza can cause fever/chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, runny or stuffy nose, and can lead to pneumonia, make other existing medical conditions worse, or even result in death. Annual vaccination is recommended for persons 6 month of age or over, including residents of nursing homes or other chronic-care facilities, and health care providers, among others.

Some people should not get influenza vaccine or should wait before getting it. For example, people with a severe egg allergy may require an alternative formulation or additional testing. As with any medication, there are potential side effects and risks from use of this vaccine.

A vaccine information statement (VIS)—**"Influenza (Flu) Vaccine (Inactivated or Recombinant): What You Need to Know"**—has been prepared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and contains important information regarding influenza and the inactivated influenza vaccine (flu shot). **Please read this VIS (particularly items #3, 4, and 5) before signing this Consent and receiving the flu shot.** If you do not wish to have the flu shot administered at this time or wish to speak with your prescriber first, check the box indicating that you decline to receive the flu shot and sign the line beside the box.

As the individual identified below or his/her responsible party, I hereby confirm that I have received, read and understood the VIS, that I understand the risks and benefits associated with the inactivated influenza vaccine (flu shot) and desire to have the flu shot administered, and that accordingly I give my permission for such administration. I understand that the flu shot, like any medication, is capable of causing serious problems such as severe allergic reaction.

Individual to Receive Vaccine: _____ Date _____

Signature of Individual / Responsible Party

Name (printed) of Individual/Responsible
Consenting to Vaccine Administration

☐ I decline to receive the "flu shot".

Signature of Individual/Responsible Party

Name (printed) of Individual/Responsible
Party Declining Vaccine Administration

Many vaccine information statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite www.immunize.org/vis

Influenza (Flu) Vaccine (Inactivated or Recombinant): *What you need to know*

1. Why get vaccinated?

Influenza vaccine can prevent influenza (flu).

Flu is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year, usually between October and May. Anyone can get the flu, but it is more dangerous for some people. Infants and young children, people 65 years and older, pregnant people, and people with certain health conditions or a weakened immune system are at greatest risk of flu complications.

Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus infections, and ear infections are examples of flu-related complications. If you have a medical condition, such as heart disease, cancer, or diabetes, flu can make it worse.

Flu can cause fever and chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and runny or stuffy nose. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

In an average year, **thousands of people in the United States die from flu**, and many more are hospitalized. Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related visits to the doctor each year.

2. Influenza vaccines

CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated every flu season. **Children 6 months through 8 years of age** may need 2 doses during a single flu season. **Everyone else** needs only 1 dose each flu season.

It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination.

There are many flu viruses, and they are always changing. Each year a new flu vaccine is made to protect against the influenza viruses believed to be likely to cause disease in the upcoming flu season.

Even when the vaccine doesn't exactly match these viruses, it may still provide some protection.

Influenza vaccine does not cause flu.

Influenza vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

3. Talk with your health care provider

Tell your vaccination provider if the person getting the vaccine:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of influenza vaccine**, or has any **severe, life-threatening allergies**
- Has ever had **Guillain-Barré Syndrome** (also called "GBS")

In some cases, your health care provider may decide to postpone influenza vaccination until a future visit.

Influenza vaccine can be administered at any time during pregnancy. People who are or will be pregnant during influenza season should receive inactivated influenza vaccine.

People with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting influenza vaccine.

Your health care provider can give you more information.



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

4. Risks of a vaccine reaction

- Soreness, redness, and swelling where the shot is given, fever, muscle aches, and headache can happen after influenza vaccination.
- There may be a very small increased risk of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) after inactivated influenza vaccine (the flu shot).

Young children who get the flu shot along with pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13) and/or DTaP vaccine at the same time might be slightly more likely to have a seizure caused by fever. Tell your health care provider if a child who is getting flu vaccine has ever had a seizure.

People sometimes faint after medical procedures, including vaccination. Tell your provider if you feel dizzy or have vision changes or ringing in the ears.

As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

5. What if there is a serious problem?

An allergic reaction could occur after the vaccinated person leaves the clinic. If you see signs of a severe allergic reaction (hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, or weakness), call **9-1-1** and get the person to the nearest hospital.

For other signs that concern you, call your health care provider.

Adverse reactions should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Your health care provider will usually file this report, or you can do it yourself. Visit the VAERS website at www.vaers.hhs.gov or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff members do not give medical advice.*

6. The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines. Claims regarding alleged injury or death due to vaccination have a time limit for filing, which may be as short as two years. Visit the VICP website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim.

7. How can I learn more?

- Ask your health care provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Visit the website of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for vaccine package inserts and additional information at www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-4636** (1-800-CDC-INFO) or
 - Visit CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/flu.

