

Montgomery County Occupational Medical Services  
255 Rockville Pike, #125, Rockville, MD 20850  
CONSENT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF  
INACTIVATED INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINE

The influenza vaccine is administered to prevent the spread of influenza. The vaccine offered is an inactivated (killed) virus which has been available in the United States for many years. It is administered as a shot directly into the muscle. It is approved for healthy adults and children. The influenza vaccine is developed yearly based on the previous year's strain of influenza per the CDC and should be administered starting in September and October.

As with most vaccinations, there may be some associated reactions. There have been infrequent reports of fever, chills, and general flu-like symptoms. Although current influenza vaccines contain only a small quantity of egg protein, on rare occasions, they can induce an allergic response (rash or breathing problems) in egg sensitive people. There has been no recent significant risk of Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS), a condition that causes paralytic illness (paralysis) from which people usually recover. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) data indicates that any risk of developing GBS from influenza vaccine appears to be far lower than the risks associated with severe influenza among persons for whom the vaccine is recommended. There is some risk, however small, of contracting GBS.

In case of an adverse reaction, emergency, or warnings issued by the CDC (Center of Disease Control) about the disease or vaccine the following contact information is requested.

Employee Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

### Medical History for Influenza Vaccine

This form should be completed no earlier than 48-hours prior to your scheduled appointment.

1. Have you ever received the flu vaccine?  Yes  No  
*If yes,*  
Have you ever had an allergic reaction (hives, shortness of breath, high fever or seizures) to the flu vaccine?  Yes  No
2. In the past have you ever had an allergic reaction to any vaccine?  Yes  No
3. Are you allergic to eggs?  Yes  No
4. Are you allergic to Thimerosal (a preservative in medicines)?  Yes  No
5. Are you sick today?  Yes  No  
*If yes,* Describe symptoms \_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you have any cold or flu like symptoms today?  Yes  No
7. Are you pregnant?  Yes  No  NA
8. Do you have a weakened immune system or do you take any medications which weaken the immune system (steroids, cancer drugs or drugs for HIV/AIDS)?  Yes  No
9. Have you ever been diagnosed with Guillian-Barre Syndrome (a type of paralysis)?  Yes  No
10. Please check if you have any of the following health conditions:  
 Heart Disease  Kidney Disease  
 Asthma  Metabolic Disease such as Diabetes  
 Lung Disease  Anemia or other blood disorders



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

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis)

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis)

## 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 of age and older, pregnant women, 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.

Each 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 vaccine

CDC recommends everyone 6 months of age 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 three or four viruses that are 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 vaccine 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 to a future visit.

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.



## 4 Risks of a vaccine reaction

- Soreness, redness, and swelling where shot is given, fever, muscle aches, and headache can happen after influenza vaccine.
- 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](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov) or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff 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. Visit the VICP website at [www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation](http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation) or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim. There is a time limit to file a claim for compensation.

## 7 How can I learn more?

- Ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
  - Visit CDC's [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

Vaccine Information Statement (Interim)  
**Inactivated Influenza  
Vaccine**



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