

***Chester County Health Department School Influenza Vaccination Program***

Dear Parent,

The Chester County Health Department will be offering the influenza vaccine to school students. The goal of this program is to minimize absenteeism in the school and the community from influenza related illness. Influenza is a very serious disease that strikes even healthy children. Health authorities are now recommending that all children, ages 6 months to 18 years old, be vaccinated against influenza. There is no charge for the vaccine.

The vaccine will be administered by experienced Registered Nurses. The nurses will be offering both the influenza nasal spray and the influenza shot at the school. Please complete the questionnaire on the back, which will help the nurse determine what type of flu vaccine your child will receive. If a question is not clear, please call 610-344-6252.

In order to participate in this program, please fill out this form completely for your child and return it to your child's school nurse.

**CHILD'S INFORMATION:**

Last Name	First Name	Grade								
Address	Apt/Suite	<table border="0" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Age</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">/</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">/</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Year</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"><b>Date of Birth</b></td> </tr> </table>	Age	/	/	Year	<b>Date of Birth</b>			
Age	/	/	Year							
<b>Date of Birth</b>										
City	State	Zip	( ) -							
Area Code & Phone Number										
Parent email address: _____										

**PLEASE CIRCLE**

<b>Gender:</b>	Male	Female	
<b>Race:</b>	Asian or Pacific Islander	Asian Indian	
	African American	Other (specify): _____	
	White		
<b>Ethnicity:</b>	Non Hispanic	Hispanic	Unknown
<b>Health Plan:</b>	Medicare	Medicaid	Unknown
	No Insurance	CHIP	Private Insurance (Name _____)

**PARENT or GUARDIAN CONSENT:**

I give permission for my child to receive the influenza vaccine at the school for free. I have answered the screening questionnaire and received a copy of the Vaccine Information Sheet.

Parent/Guardian (please print): Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: (please circle) Mother Father Guardian

Please turn over →

# Screening Questionnaire for Influenza Vaccination

*Please circle*

1.	Does your child have an allergy to eggs?	Yes	No
2.	Does your child have an allergy to Gentamycin, latex, gelatin or thimerosal?	Yes	No
3.	Has your child ever had a serious reaction to an influenza vaccine?	Yes	No
4.	Has your child ever had Guillain-Barré Syndrome?	Yes	No
5.	Does your child have asthma or a seizure disorder?	Yes	No
6.	Has your child ever had a health problem with lung disease, heart disease, kidney disease, metabolic disease (e.g. diabetes), a blood disorder or is currently receiving aspirin therapy?	Yes	No
7.	Does your child have cancer, leukemia, AIDS or any other immune system problem?	Yes	No
8.	Has your child taken cortisone, prednisone, other steroids, or anticancer drugs, or had radiation treatments (does not include x-rays) in the past 3 months?	Yes	No
9.	Has the child received a transfusion of blood or blood products or been given a medicine called immune (gamma) globulin in the past year?	Yes	No
10.	Is your child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?	Yes	No
11.	<b>In the past four (4) weeks</b> has your child received a MMR, Varicella (chickenpox), Yellow Fever or Flu Mist vaccine?	Yes	No
12.	Does your child have close contact with anyone who has a weakened immune system who is in the hospital <b>in a protective environment</b> (e.g. an individual who has had a bone marrow transplant)? Please describe: _____	Yes	No

FOR CLINIC/OFFICE USE ONLY	
<b>Are you sick today? Yes or No</b>	
Date Vaccine Administered: ____ / ____ / ____	Lot Number: _____
Clinic Site: _____	Vaccine Manufacturer: Sanofi Pasteur / Novartis / MedImmune
Site of Injection: RD, IM    LD, IM    IN	Expiration: ____ / ____ / ____
Signature of Vaccine Administrator: _____	<u>VIS Dates:</u> LAIV 7/2/12 TIV 7/2/12

## VACCINE INFORMATION STATEMENT

# Influenza Vaccine

## Live, Intranasal

### What You Need to Know

# 2012 - 2013

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 <http://www.immunize.org/vis>

### 1 Why get vaccinated?

Influenza ("flu") is a contagious disease.

It is caused by the influenza virus, which can be spread by coughing, sneezing, or nasal secretions.

Anyone can get influenza, but rates of infection are highest among children. For most people, symptoms last only a few days. They include:

- fever/chills
- sore throat
- muscle aches
- fatigue
- cough
- headache
- runny or stuffy nose

Other illnesses can have the same symptoms and are often mistaken for influenza.

Young children, people 65 and older, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions – such as heart, lung or kidney disease, or a weakened immune system – can get much sicker. Flu can cause high fever and pneumonia, and make existing medical conditions worse. It can cause diarrhea and seizures in children. Each year thousands of people die from influenza and even more require hospitalization.

By getting flu vaccine you can protect yourself from influenza and may also avoid spreading influenza to others.

### 2 Live, attenuated influenza vaccine - LAIV (nasal spray)

There are two types of influenza vaccine:

1. **Live, attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV)** contains live but attenuated (weakened) influenza virus. It is sprayed into the nostrils.
2. **Inactivated** (killed) influenza vaccine, the "flu shot," is given by injection with a needle. *This vaccine is described in a separate Vaccine Information Statement.*

Influenza viruses are always changing, so annual vaccination is recommended. Each year scientists try to match the viruses in the vaccine to those most likely to cause flu that year. Flu vaccine will not prevent disease from other viruses, including flu viruses not contained in the vaccine.

It takes up to 2 weeks for protection to develop after the vaccination. Protection lasts about a year.

LAIV does not contain thimerosal or other preservatives.

### 3 Who can receive LAIV?

LAIV is recommended for healthy people 2 through 49 years of age, who are not pregnant and do not have certain health conditions (see #4, below).

### 4 Some people should not receive LAIV

LAIV is not recommended for everyone. The following people should get the inactivated vaccine (flu shot) instead:

- **Adults 50 years of age and older or children from 6 through 23 months of age.** (Children younger than 6 months should not get either influenza vaccine.)
- Children younger than 5 years with asthma or one or more episodes of wheezing within the past year.
- Pregnant women.
- People who have long-term health problems with:
  - heart disease
  - kidney or liver disease
  - lung disease
  - metabolic disease, such as diabetes
  - asthma
  - anemia, and other blood disorders
- Anyone with certain muscle or nerve disorders (such as seizure disorders or cerebral palsy) that can lead to breathing or swallowing problems.
- Anyone with a weakened immune system.
- Anyone in close contact with someone whose immune system is so weak they require care in a protected environment (such as a bone marrow transplant unit). *Close contacts of other people with a weakened immune system (such as those with HIV) may receive LAIV. Healthcare personnel in neonatal intensive care units or oncology clinics may receive LAIV.*
- Children or adolescents on long-term aspirin treatment.

Tell your doctor if you have any severe (life-threatening) allergies, including a severe allergy to eggs. A severe allergy to any vaccine component may be a reason not to get the vaccine. Allergic reactions to influenza vaccine are rare.

Tell your doctor if you ever had a severe reaction after a dose of influenza vaccine.

Tell your doctor if you ever had Guillain-Barré Syndrome (a severe paralytic illness, also called GBS). Your doctor will help you decide whether the vaccine is recommended for you.



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

Tell your doctor if you have gotten any other vaccines in the past 4 weeks.

Anyone with a nasal condition serious enough to make breathing difficult, such as a very stuffy nose, should get the flu shot instead.

People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting flu vaccine. If you are ill, talk to your doctor about whether to reschedule the vaccination. People with a mild illness can usually get the vaccine.

**5 When should I receive influenza vaccine?**

Get the vaccine as soon as it is available. This should provide protection if the flu season comes early. You can get the vaccine as long as illness is occurring in your community.

Influenza can occur any time, but most influenza occurs from October through May. In recent seasons, most infections have occurred in January and February. Getting vaccinated in December, or even later, will still be beneficial in most years.

Adults and older children need one dose of influenza vaccine each year. But some children younger than 9 years of age need two doses to be protected. Ask your doctor.

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

**6 What are the risks from LAIV?**

A vaccine, like any medicine, could possibly cause serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of a vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

Live influenza vaccine viruses very rarely spread from person to person. Even if they do, they are not likely to cause illness.

LAIV is made from weakened virus and does not cause influenza. The vaccine can cause mild symptoms in people who get it (see below).

**Mild problems:**  
Some children and adolescents 2-17 years of age have reported:

- runny nose, nasal congestion or cough
- fever
- headache and muscle aches
- wheezing
- abdominal pain or occasional vomiting or diarrhea

Some adults 18-49 years of age have reported:

- runny nose or nasal congestion
- sore throat
- cough, chills, tiredness/weakness
- headache

**Severe problems:**

- Life-threatening allergic reactions from vaccines are very rare. If they do occur, it is usually within a few minutes to a few hours after the vaccination.
- If rare reactions occur with any product, they may not be identified until thousands, or millions, of people have

used it. Millions of doses of LAIV have been distributed since it was licensed, and the vaccine has not been associated with any serious problems.

The safety of vaccines is always being monitored. For more information, visit:

- [www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Vaccine\\_Monitoring/Index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Vaccine_Monitoring/Index.html) and
- [www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Activities/Activities\\_Index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Activities/Activities_Index.html)

**7 What if there is a severe reaction?**

**What should I look for?**

Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or behavior changes. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

**What should I do?**

- Call a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- Tell the doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- Ask your doctor to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS website at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov), or by calling 1-800-822-7967.

*VAERS does not provide medical advice.*

**8 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program**

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) was created in 1986.

Persons who believe they may have been injured by a vaccine can learn about the program and about filing a claim by calling 1-800-338-2382, or visiting the VICP website at [www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation](http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation).

**9 How can I learn more?**

- Ask your doctor. They can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.
- 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 website at [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

Vaccine Information Statement (Interim)  
**Influenza Vaccine**  
(Live, Attenuated)

7/2/2012  
42 U.S.C. § 300aa-26



# Influenza Vaccine

## Inactivated

### What You Need to Know

2012 - 2013

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Anyone can get influenza, but rates of infection are highest among children. For most people, symptoms last only a few days. They include:

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- sore throat
- muscle aches
- fatigue
- cough
- headache
- runny or stuffy nose

Other illnesses can have the same symptoms and are often mistaken for influenza.

Young children, people 65 and older, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions – such as heart, lung or kidney disease, or a weakened immune system – can get much sicker. Flu can cause high fever and pneumonia, and make existing medical conditions worse. It can cause diarrhea and seizures in children. Each year thousands of people die from influenza and even more require hospitalization.

By getting flu vaccine you can protect yourself from influenza and may also avoid spreading influenza to others.

#### 2 Inactivated influenza vaccine

There are two types of influenza vaccine:

1. **Inactivated** (killed) vaccine, the "flu shot," is given by injection with a needle.

2. **Live, attenuated** (weakened) influenza vaccine is sprayed into the nostrils. *This vaccine is described in a separate Vaccine Information Statement.*

A "high-dose" inactivated influenza vaccine is available for people 65 years of age and older. Ask your doctor for more information.

Influenza viruses are always changing, so annual vaccination is recommended. Each year scientists try to match the viruses in the vaccine to those most likely to cause flu that year. Flu vaccine will not prevent disease from other viruses, including flu viruses not contained in the vaccine.

It takes up to 2 weeks for protection to develop after the shot. Protection lasts about a year.

Some inactivated influenza vaccine contains a preservative called thimerosal. Thimerosal-free influenza vaccine is available. Ask your doctor for more information.

#### 3 Who should get inactivated influenza vaccine and when?

##### WHO

All people **6 months of age and older** should get flu vaccine.

Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of severe influenza and their close contacts, including healthcare personnel and close contacts of children younger than 6 months.

##### WHEN

Get the vaccine as soon as it is available. This should provide protection if the flu season comes early. You can get the vaccine as long as illness is occurring in your community.

Influenza can occur at any time, but most influenza occurs from October through May. In recent seasons, most infections have occurred in January and February. Getting vaccinated in December, or even later, will still be beneficial in most years.

Adults and older children need one dose of influenza vaccine each year. But some children younger than 9 years of age need two doses to be protected. Ask your doctor.

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

#### 4 Some people should not get inactivated influenza vaccine or should wait.

- Tell your doctor if you have any severe (life-threatening) allergies, including a severe allergy to eggs. A severe allergy to any vaccine component may be a reason not to get the vaccine. Allergic reactions to influenza vaccine are rare.



- Tell your doctor if you ever had a severe reaction after a dose of influenza vaccine.
- Tell your doctor if you ever had Guillain-Barré Syndrome (a severe paralytic illness, also called GBS). Your doctor will help you decide whether the vaccine is recommended for you.
- People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting flu vaccine. If you are ill, talk to your doctor about whether to reschedule the vaccination. People with a mild illness can usually get the vaccine.

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### What are the risks from inactivated influenza vaccine?

A vaccine, like any medicine, could possibly cause serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of a vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

Serious problems from inactivated influenza vaccine are very rare. The viruses in inactivated influenza vaccine have been killed, so you cannot get influenza from the vaccine.

#### Mild problems:

- soreness, redness, or swelling where the shot was given
  - hoarseness; sore, red or itchy eyes; cough
  - fever • aches • headache • itching • fatigue
- If these problems occur, they usually begin soon after the shot and last 1-2 days.

#### Moderate problems:

Young children who get inactivated flu vaccine and pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13) at the same time appear to be at increased risk for seizures caused by fever. Ask your doctor for more information.

Tell your doctor if a child who is getting flu vaccine has ever had a seizure.

#### Severe problems:

- Life-threatening allergic reactions from vaccines are very rare. If they do occur, it is usually within a few minutes to a few hours after the shot.
- In 1976, a type of inactivated influenza (swine flu) vaccine was associated with Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS). Since then, flu vaccines have not been clearly linked to GBS. However, if there is a risk of GBS from current flu vaccines, it would be no more than 1 or 2 cases per million people vaccinated. This is much lower than the risk of severe influenza, which can be prevented by vaccination.

The safety of vaccines is always being monitored. For more information, visit:  
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One brand of inactivated flu vaccine, called Afluria, should not be given to children 8 years of age or younger, except in special circumstances. A related vaccine was associated with fevers and fever-related seizures in young children in Australia. Your doctor can give you more information.

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### What if there is a severe reaction?

#### What should I look for?

- Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or unusual behavior. Signs of a serious allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

#### What should I do?

- Call a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- Tell your doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- Ask your doctor, nurse, or health department to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS web site at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov), or by calling 1-800-822-7967.

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