

## Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Pediatric Recommendations

### Highlights for this year:

- Annual vaccination of all children aged 6 months -18 years is recommended for the 2009-2010 influenza season.
- Information related to novel H1N1 vaccine will be published later in the season.

### Flu Review:

- Influenza vaccine is recommended for all children aged 6 months – 18 years.
- Those children < 9 years old who received only 1 dose in their first year of vaccination now need to receive 2 doses the following year, with single annual doses in subsequent years (see dosing table and notes at the bottom of the page).
- Children aged 6-23 months, and children of any age with chronic medical conditions including asthma, are at highest risk for hospitalization and severe complications from influenza disease.
- Children 24-59 months are at increased risk for influenza-associated clinic and emergency department visits, particularly if they have a high-risk medical condition.
- To prevent transmission to the persons identified above, influenza vaccine is recommended for household contacts and out-of-home caregivers, including those caring for infants less than 6 months of age.
- For full ACIP recommendations go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5808a1.htm>

## Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Supplied By the VDH Immunization Program

- Seasonal influenza vaccine distributed by the VDH is available only for pediatric use, ages 6 months through age 18 years. Adults age 19 and older should seek flu vaccine from their health care provider, or for locations of public flu clinics see the VDH Flu Clinic Finder at [healthvermont.gov/](http://healthvermont.gov/).
- Flu vaccine manufacturers indicate no delays or complications are anticipated with production or distribution this year. A limited supply of flu vaccine in the early season doesn't usually represent a vaccine shortage. Vaccine is shipped from the manufacturers as it's approved by the Federal Drug Administration in multiple batches and should be administered throughout the season.
- Vaccines highlighted on the back page have been ordered by the VDH. Both injectable and intranasal vaccines are available again this year. Changes to licensing in recent years means FluMist™ is now stored in the refrigerator and it's licensed for healthy people age 2–49 years. FluMist™ has an expiration date that is 18 weeks from manufacturer's release. Injectable influenza vaccine expires in June 2010. A greater quantity of single dose preservative free vaccine has been obtained this year but the available quantity of these products won't meet the entire need of any practice. Supplementing with multidose vials will mean all children can receive flu vaccine.
- Vaccine managers at each provider practice will have submitted a flu vaccine order to indicate products and quantities requested. Please anticipate multiple shipments from McKesson and that an increased quantity of single dosed products may take up more refrigerator space.

## Influenza Vaccine Dosing for Inactivated, Injectable Influenza Vaccine

Age	Dose	Number of Doses
6-35 months	0.25 mL	1 or 2*
3-8 years	0.5 mL	1 or 2*
9 years to adult	0.5 mL	1

\* Two doses are recommended for children under 9 years of age who are receiving flu vaccine for the first time. Children who were vaccinated last year for the first time and received only one dose, need two doses this year. If a child received only one dose the first year they were vaccinated and none last year, they only need one dose this year.

Continued on Back

<b>Manufacturer</b> <i>VDH Supplied Vaccine is Highlighted</i>	<b>Vaccine</b>	<b>Formulation</b>	<b>Thimerosal Preservative</b>	<b>Age Indication</b>
Sanofi Pasteur, Inc.	FluZone™ Inactivated Trivalent	Multi-dose vial	Yes	≥ 6 months
		Single-dose pre-filled 0.5 mL syringe	None	≥ 36 months
		Single-dose pre-filled 0.5 mL vial	None	≥ 36 months
		Single-dose pre-filled 0.25 mL syringe	None	6-35 months
Novartis (formerly Chiron Corporation)	Fluvirin™ Inactivated Trivalent	Multi-dose vial	Yes	≥ 4 years
		Single-dose 0.5 mL syringe	<1µg Hg/0.5mL dose, trace only, preservative free	≥ 4 years
GlaxoSmithKline, Inc.	Fluarix™ Inactivated Trivalent	Single-dose pre-filled syringe 0.5 mL	<1µg Hg/0.5mL dose, trace only, preservative free	≥ 18 years
	FluLaval™ Inactivated Trivalent	Multi-dose vial	yes	≥ 18 years
MedImmune Vaccines, Inc	FluMist™ LAIV	Single-dose sprayer	None	Healthy non-pregnant persons 2-49 years
CSL Biotherapies	Afluria™ Inactivated Trivalent	Multi-dose vial	Yes	>18 years
		Single-dose pre-filled syringe 0.5ml	None	

### Statement from the CDC on Influenza Vaccine and Thimerosal

- Thimerosal, a mercury-containing compound, has been used as a preservative in vaccines since the 1930s and is used in multidose vials of inactivated influenza vaccine to reduce the likelihood of bacterial contamination.
- Since mid-2001, vaccines routinely recommended for infants in the United States have been manufactured either without or with only trace amounts of thimerosal, resulting in a substantial reduction in the total ethyl mercury exposure from vaccines for children.
- The risks for severe illness from influenza virus infection are elevated among both young children and pregnant women, and persons in both groups benefit from vaccination. In Vermont, there have been 4 pediatric influenza related deaths since 2004.
- Persons for whom inactivated influenza vaccine is recommended may receive vaccine with or without thimerosal, depending on availability. No scientifically conclusive evidence has demonstrated harm from exposure to vaccine containing thimerosal. In contrast the risk for complications from severe influenza illness has been demonstrated.

### Protect Your Patients, Protect Yourself

A yearly influenza vaccination is recommended for health care workers. Influenza is highly infectious via large and aerosolized droplets. Individuals may not know that they are infected due to the fact that 50% of influenza infections are asymptomatic and the virus is communicable from one day prior to the onset of symptoms.