

Give these people influenza vaccine!

WHY? This year, influenza is again expected to kill more than 36,000 people in the United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that persons in the following groups receive influenza vaccine. Check the list below and make sure you offer influenza vaccine to all who want it or need it.

ALL persons who wish to reduce their likelihood of becoming ill with influenza or of transmitting influenza to others

ALL persons age 50 years and older

ALL children age 6 months through 18 years

Household contacts and caregivers of children younger than age 5 years, particularly contacts of infants younger than age 6 months

Household contacts and caregivers of adults age 50 years and older

Healthcare personnel

Healthcare personnel and others in close contact with persons in high-risk groups should be vaccinated to decrease the risk of transmitting infection to persons for whom influenza could be a serious, life-threatening disease. Those who should be vaccinated include the following:

- ✓ physicians, nurses, receptionists, and other personnel who have contact with patients in hospital or outpatient settings, including medical emergency response workers
- ✓ employees of nursing homes and chronic-care facilities who have contact with patients or residents
- ✓ employees of assisted living and other residences for persons in high-risk groups
- ✓ persons who provide home care to people in high-risk groups

Other groups to consider

- ✓ travelers at high risk for influenza complications who were not vaccinated in the previous fall or winter and who plan to travel to the Southern Hemisphere between April and September, to the tropics, or with a large tourist group at any time of year
- ✓ persons who provide essential community services (e.g., firefighters, police)
- ✓ students or other persons in institutional settings (e.g., those who reside in dormitories)

Persons with certain high-risk medical conditions

Any person (age 6 months or older) who is at increased risk for complications from influenza because of underlying medical conditions, including

- ✓ residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities that house persons of any age who have chronic medical conditions
- ✓ children and adults who have chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular systems, including asthma
- ✓ children and adults who have chronic metabolic diseases (including diabetes), renal dysfunction, hemoglobinopathies, or immunosuppression (including HIV)
- ✓ children and adults who have conditions that compromise respiratory function or the handling of respiratory secretions or that can increase the risk of aspiration
- ✓ children and adolescents (age 6 months through 18 years) who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy and therefore might be at risk for developing Reye's syndrome after influenza illness
- ✓ all women who will be pregnant during the influenza season

Household contacts of all high-risk persons listed above

Persons who should not be vaccinated

Consult the current recommendations from CDC (see source information below) for guidance on contraindications and precautions for use of trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine and live attenuated intranasal influenza vaccine.

Source: "Prevention and Control of Influenza—Recommendations of ACIP" at www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination