

Influenza vaccination decision aid



HOW-TO-USE GUIDE

This resource is based on the seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations of the United States (US) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).¹ Note that all US 2024-25 influenza vaccines will be trivalent and no longer contain the B/Yamagata component, as naturally occurring B/Yamagata viruses have not been detected since March 2020. Approved vaccines may differ in your local country or region. Use only vaccines approved for use in your country or region according to the label and follow local guidelines.

Vaccination starts in September or October in the Northern Hemisphere and should continue as long as the influenza viruses are in circulation.

This decision aid has three parts. Please read through all parts of the decision aid and follow the instructions provided.

PART A. Contraindications for influenza vaccination and other considerations: describes contraindications for seasonal influenza vaccination and key considerations for certain groups of people (e.g. pregnant women, immunocompromised persons etc.)

Considering your patient, answer the 7 questions. If you answer yes to any question, read the information provided and refer to CDC/ACIP's seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations 2024-25 for further information.¹

PART B. Influenza vaccination decision tree by age: helps you to find CDC influenza vaccination recommendations quickly according to the age of your patient.

Select the appropriate age group according to your patient's age. Follow the instructions according to age group and vaccination status, where indicated, to find the CDC/ACIP's influenza vaccination recommendations for your patient's age group. Proceed to PART C for a list of US-approved vaccines and doses per age group.

PART C. US-approved influenza vaccines with recommended doses per age group: lists specific US-approved influenza vaccines with their recommended doses according to age group.

Use the table to identify an approved vaccine and recommended dose according to the age of your patient. Refer to **PART A** for further information on vaccination contraindications.

PART A. Contraindications for influenza vaccination and other considerations

Considering your patient, answer the following 7 questions. If you answer yes to any question, read the information provided and refer to CDC/ACIP's seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations 2024-25 for further information: <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/downloads/acip-2024-25-summary-of-recommendations-influenza.pdf>

QUESTION 1

Does your patient have an egg allergy?

YES

Persons with egg allergy¹

- Any influenza vaccine (egg based or non-egg based) that is otherwise appropriate for the recipient's age and health status can be administered to persons with egg allergy
- Egg allergy does not necessitate any additional safety measures for influenza vaccination beyond those recommended for any recipient of any vaccine

NO

PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION

QUESTION 2

Has your patient had a previous severe allergic reaction to any influenza vaccine?

YES

Previous severe allergic reactions to influenza vaccines¹

- Egg-based IIV3s:** Previous severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to any component of the vaccine (other than egg), or to a previous dose of any influenza vaccine (any egg-based IIV, cclIV, RIV, or LAIV of any valency) is a contraindication to egg-based IIV3s
- cclIV3:** Previous severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to cclIV of any valency, or to any component of cclIV3 is a contraindication to cclIV3. Previous severe allergic reaction for the use of any other influenza vaccine (any egg-based IIV, RIV, or LAIV of any valency) is a precaution for the use of cclIV3
- RIV3:** Previous severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to RIV of any valency or to any component of RIV3 is a contraindication to RIV3. Previous severe allergic reaction for the use of any other influenza vaccine (any egg-based IIV, cclIV, or LAIV of any valency) is a precaution for the use of RIV3
- LAIV3:** Previous severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to any component of the vaccine (other than egg) or to a previous dose of any influenza vaccine (i.e., any egg-based IIV, cclIV, RIV, or LAIV of any valency) is a contraindication to LAIV3

NO

PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION

QUESTION 3

Could your patient be pregnant?

YES

Vaccination in pregnancy¹

- Persons who are or who might be pregnant during the influenza season should receive influenza vaccine
- Any age-appropriate IIV3 or RIV3 may be given in any trimester
- LAIV3 should not be used during pregnancy but can be used postpartum

NO

PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION

QUESTION 4

Is your patient immunocompromised?

YES

Immunocompromised persons¹

- Immunocompromised persons should receive IIV3 or RIV3. LAIV3 should not be used
- Solid organ transplant recipients aged 18-64 years who are receiving immunosuppressive medication regimens may receive HD-IIV3 or aIIV3
- Immune response might be reduced in persons on certain medications, chemotherapy, or transplant regimens
- The Infectious Diseases Society of America has published guidance concerning the timing of vaccination in relation to such interventions. See <https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/58/3/e44/336537>

NO

PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION

QUESTION 5

Does your patient have a chronic medical condition?

YES

Chronic medical conditions¹

- LAIV3 is NOT recommended for persons with some chronic medical conditions
- See table 3 of CDC/ACIP's seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations 2024-2025 for further information: <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/downloads/acip-2024-25-summary-of-recommendations-influenza.pdf>

NO

PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION

QUESTION 6

Does your patient have moderate or severe acute illness?

YES

Persons with moderate or severe acute illness¹

- Moderate or severe acute illness, with or without fever, is considered a precaution for receipt of the influenza vaccine
- When a precaution is present, vaccination should generally be deferred but might be indicated if the benefit of protection from the vaccine outweighs the risk for an adverse reaction

NO

PROCEED TO THE NEXT QUESTION

QUESTION 7

Does your patient have a history of Guillain-Barré syndrome within 6 weeks of receipt of the influenza vaccine?

YES

History of Guillain-Barré syndrome within 6 weeks of receipt of the influenza vaccine¹

- The above is considered a precaution for receipt of the influenza vaccine
- When a precaution is present, vaccination should generally be deferred but might be indicated if the benefit of protection from the vaccine outweighs the risk for an adverse reaction

NO

READ NOTES BELOW

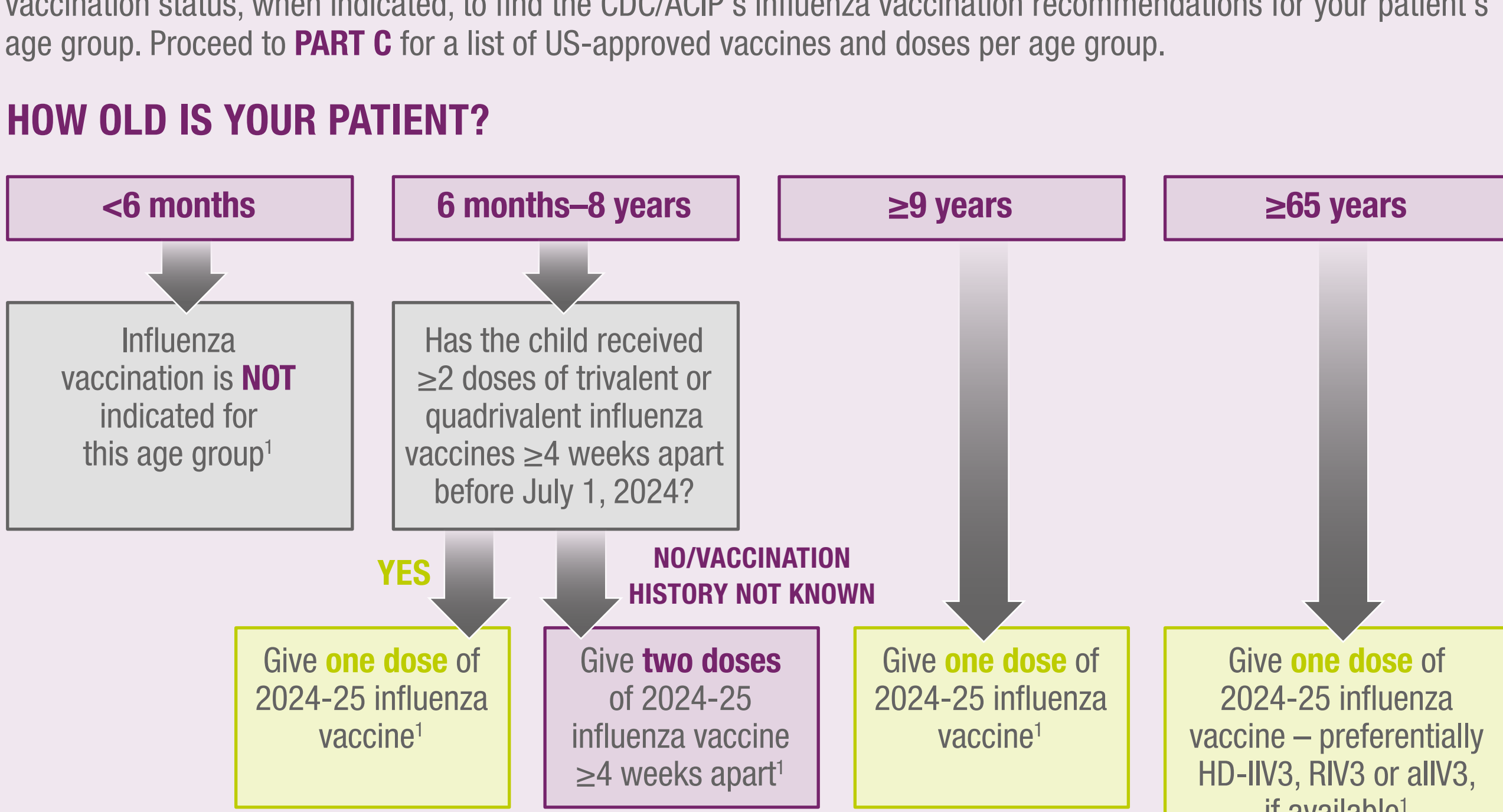
If you answer YES to any of the questions above:

Refer to CDC/ACIP's seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations 2024-25 for further information: <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/downloads/acip-2024-25-summary-of-recommendations-influenza.pdf>.

PART B. Influenza vaccination decision tree by age

First complete **PART A** to identify if your patient has any contraindications to vaccination, then select the appropriate age group below according to your patient's age. Follow the instructions according to age group and vaccination status, when indicated, to find the CDC/ACIP's influenza vaccination recommendations for your patient's age group. Proceed to **PART C** for a list of US-approved vaccines and doses per age group.

HOW OLD IS YOUR PATIENT?



PART C. US-approved influenza vaccines with recommended doses per age group¹

Use the table to identify an approved vaccine and recommended dose according to the age of your patient. Refer to **PART A** for further information on vaccination contraindications. All US-approved 2024-25 influenza vaccines are trivalent.

Important note: these vaccines are approved for use in the US. Use only vaccines approved for use in your country or region according to the label and follow local guidelines.

≥6 months		6–35 months		≥3 years		≥18 years		2–49 years		≥65 years	
IM vaccine	Dose	IM vaccine	Dose	IM vaccine	Dose	IM vaccine	Dose	Intranasal vaccine	Dose	IM Vaccine	Dose
Fluarix	0.5 ml	Afluria	0.25 ml	Afluria	0.5 ml	Flublok	0.5 ml	FluMist [†]	0.1 ml per nostril	Fluzone High-Dose	0.5 ml
FluLaval	0.5 ml	Fluzone	0.25 ml or 0.5 ml*	Fluzone	0.5 ml					Fluad	0.5 ml
Flucelvax	0.5 ml									Flublok	0.5 ml

*The approved dose volume per the package insert for Fluzone is either 0.25 ml or 0.5 ml for ages 6 through 35 months. However, 0.25 ml prefilled syringes are not available.¹

[†]LAIV3 vaccine is contraindicated in various groups of people including pregnant women, immunocompromised persons, those with severe allergic reactions to influenza vaccines, and those with certain chronic medical conditions. Refer to **PART A** of this decision aid for further information.¹

Additional resources

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes comprehensive advice and recommendations on the use of seasonal influenza vaccines. Here are a few of the available resources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Influenza (flu). Influenza vaccination: a summary for clinicians. Available at: [Influenza Vaccination: A Summary for Clinicians | CDC](#).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention and control of seasonal influenza with vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)—United States, 2024-25. Summary of recommendations. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/downloads/acip-2024-25-summary-of-recommendations-influenza.pdf>.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Influenza (flu). Make a strong influenza vaccine recommendation. Available at: [Make a Strong Influenza Vaccine Recommendation | CDC](#).

Abbreviations: ACIP, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; cclIV, cell culture-based IIV; CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; HD, high dose; IIV, inactivated influenza vaccine; IM, intramuscular; LAIV, live attenuated influenza vaccine; RIV, recombinant influenza vaccine.

Reference: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention and control of seasonal influenza with vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)—United States, 2024-25. Summary of recommendations. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/downloads/acip-2024-25-summary-of-recommendations-influenza.pdf>. Accessed: August 2024.