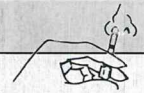


Seasonal Influenza Vaccination - Annex

【Information About NASAL SPRAY VACCINE】



Please read the information carefully. If you have any concerns about the suitability of yourself, your child or your ward for the vaccination, please consult your family doctor.

1. What is influenza?

- Influenza is an acute illness of the respiratory tract caused by influenza viruses. The virus mainly spreads by respiratory droplets. The disease is characterised by fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose, headache, muscle aches and general tiredness. It is usually self-limiting with recovery in two to seven days.
- However, if persons with weakened immunity and elderly persons get infected, it can be a serious illness and may even cause death.
- Serious infection or complications can also occur in healthy individuals.

2. Which type of influenza vaccines are recommended to be use in children?

- The Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) under the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health recommended inactivated influenza vaccines and live attenuated influenza vaccine (i.e. nasal vaccine) for use in children. Both quadrivalent and trivalent seasonal influenza vaccines could be used in the 2025-26 season.

3. Why children aged 6 months to 18 years are recommended as a priority group to receive seasonal influenza vaccination?

- Seasonal influenza vaccination is recommended for children six months to 11 years for reducing influenza related complications such as excess hospitalisations or deaths.
- Local data have shown that seasonal influenza vaccination could effectively reduce the risk of severe influenza infection among children below 18 years of age.
- Overseas studies have shown that vaccinating young school children may potentially reduce school absenteeism and influenza transmission in the community.
- Taking reference from overseas practice and local experience, seasonal influenza vaccination continues to be recommended to secondary school students or adolescents 12 to under 18 years of age for the 2025-26 season.

4. How many doses of seasonal influenza vaccine (SIV) will my child need?

- One dose per year, except those under nine years of age who have never received any seasonal influenza vaccination before are recommended to receive two doses of SIV with a minimum interval of four weeks.

5. What is Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)?

- The LAIV contains weakened viruses and is given by intranasal spray. LAIV can be used for people two-49 years of age.

6. Who should not receive live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV)?

- History of severe allergic reaction to any vaccine component, or after previous dose of any influenza vaccine
- Concomitant aspirin or salicylate-containing therapy in children and adolescents
- Children aged two through four years who have asthma or who have had a history of wheezing in the past 12 months
- Children and adults who are immunocompromised due to any cause
- Close contacts and caregivers of severely immunosuppressed persons who require a protected environment
- Pregnancy
- Receipt of influenza antiviral medication within previous 48 hours
- Individuals with mild egg allergy who are considering an influenza vaccination can be given LAIV in primary care setting. Individuals with a history of anaphylaxis to egg should have seasonal influenza vaccine administered by healthcare professionals in appropriate medical facilities with capacity to recognise and manage severe allergic reactions. Influenza vaccine contains ovalbumin (an egg protein), but the vaccine manufacturing process involves repeated purification and the ovalbumin content is very low. Even people who are allergic to eggs are generally safe to receive vaccination.

*For individuals receiving LAIV, other live vaccines not administered on the same day should be administered at least four weeks apart.

* If you have any concerns about the suitability of yourself/ your child/ your ward for the vaccination, please consult your family doctor.

7. What are the possible side effects following live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) administration?

- Overseas studies had indicated LAIV to be safe and effective
- The most common adverse reactions following LAIV administration are nasal congestion or runny nose (in all ages), fever (in children) and sore throat (in adults).
- Children aged below five years with recurrent wheezing/ persons of any age with asthma may be at increased risk of wheezing following administration.
- Immediate severe allergic reactions like hives, swelling of the lips or tongue, and difficulties in breathing are rare but require emergency consultation.



For more detailed information, please visit website of

Centre for Health Protection of DH: <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/100764.html>

Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHealth) - Annex

The Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHealth) is a territory-wide, patient-oriented electronic sharing platform which enables authorised healthcare providing organisations in the public and private sectors to access and share participating patients' electronic health records (eHR) for healthcare purposes. After joining eHealth, the Hospital Authority (HA), the Department of Health (DH) and individual private healthcare providers authorised by you can access your eHR on a need-to-know basis in the course of providing healthcare to enable more timely diagnosis and treatment, and reduce duplicate diagnostic tests. Joining eHealth is voluntary and free of charge. You can withdraw from eHealth or revoke any sharing consent given to a healthcare provider (other than HA and DH) anytime. **Citizens who registered with eHealth can check their vaccination record via the eHealth App.**

Please scan the QR code below to read and understand "Participant Information Notice" and "Personal Information Collection Statement".

Participant Information Notice



**Personal Information Collection
Statement**



For enquiries about registration or other issues about eHealth, please contact Electronic Health Record Registration Office at 3467 6300. For more information about eHealth, please visit the website at www.ehealth.gov.hk.