

The Vaccine Specialists 1-888-499-7277

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION CONSENT

Flu

Influenza (flu) is a respiratory disease caused by influenza virus infection. The types, or strains, of influenza virus that cause illness may change from year to year, or even within the same year. People who get flu may have fever, chills, headache, dry cough, and muscle aches, and may be sick for several days to a week or more. Most people recover completely. However, for some people, flu may be especially severe, and pneumonia or other complications, including death, may occur.

Vaccine

The seasonal flu vaccine contains killed influenza virus of the types selected by the U.S. Public Health Service and the Center for Biologics Evaluation & Research of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The types of virus included are those that have most recently been causing influenza. The vaccine will not give you flu because it is a killed virus vaccine. As with any vaccine, flu vaccine may not protect 100% of all susceptible individuals. The influenza vaccine is now available in an intradermal (ID), intramuscular (IM) and cell based (Flucelvax & Flu Blok) presentation. The ID vaccine requires a 90% smaller needle than the IM, which may be helpful for people who don't like needles. It is approved by the FDA for people 18-64 years of age. Anyone with an egg allergy may take the cell based influenza vaccine.

Risks and Possible Side Effects

Influenza vaccine generally causes only mild side effects that occur at low frequency. Most commonly, the reactions may be a sore or tender arm where the injection was given, or possibly fever, chills, headache, or muscle aches. These side effects usually last 24 to 48 hours. Most people who receive the vaccine either have no reaction or only mild reactions. There is a possibility, as with any vaccine or drug, that an allergic or other serious reaction, or even death, could occur. Also, medical events completely unrelated to the vaccine may occur coincidentally following vaccination.

Contraindication

For Clinic Use

Vaccination is generally not recommended for the following people:

- 1. Allergy to eggs or egg products unless using Flucelvax or FluBlok
- 2. Acute febrile illnesses (Fever over 101° F)
- 3. Anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose,
- 4. Developed Guillain-Barré syndrome within 6 weeks after receiving a previous influenza vaccination.
- 5. Allergy to Thimerosal unless receiving preservative-free vaccine

If you have any of the above, please notify the staff. If you have any questions, please ask now or check with your physician before receiving the vaccine.

If you experience any significant reactions, see your physician.

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