

## 2020-2021 State Supplied Influenza Vaccine Bulletin

Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all people aged 6 months and older who do not have a contraindication. The overlap of COVID-19 with influenza this year strengthens that recommendation to prevent coinfections and to reduce the strain on health care systems.

### From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2020–21 Influenza Season Recommendations and Reports / August 21, 2020 / 69\(8\);1–24](#)

### Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)

Two Influenza VIS can be found on CDC's website. The edition dated 8/15/2019 should be used for the current flu season. For translations in many languages, see <https://immunize.org/vis/>.

- [Influenza, inactivated or recombinant VIS](#)
- [Live, Intranasal Influenza VIS](#)

### Communication

The Program uses email as the primary means of communication to notify practices about flu vaccine orders placed and supply issues. Vaccine Coordinators should immediately **notify the Program** with important information, such as your practice refrigerator is full and cannot accept additional deliveries, additional doses are needed, or if you intend to begin vaccinating later than September. Stay in communication with the Immunization Program by email: [AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov).

### New this Year from the Immunization Program

- For this flu season only, vaccine supplied by the Program may be used to immunize any person age **6 months and older**. This may include your patients, parents/caregivers of your patients, your staff, and non-patients.
- Offsite flu clinics are encouraged this year. Program [requirements and guidance](#) are available and an [enrollment addendum](#) must be completed. Schools and other

community settings may reach out to medical practices to partner with them to host flu vaccination clinics.

- FedEx and UPS have been significantly affected by the increase in e-commerce. There is a risk that vaccine orders may be left unattended at providers offices or delivered outside of hours. CDC is working closely with vaccine distributors to prevent this from happening. To prevent the loss of vaccine, practice extra vigilance when expecting an order delivery, check in VIMS to assure your delivery days and hours are accurate and inform the Program of changes needed **before** orders are placed.

## Supply, Ordering, and Distribution

- **Vaccine orders will be placed by the Program on your behalf the first week of September, three weeks later**, and possibly again in early October. Vaccine delivery is expected to begin in early September. Most practices will receive multiple shipments throughout the season. The Vaccine Coordinator and Backup will receive an email after an order has been placed for your practice. The vaccine delivery date is determined by the distributor, McKesson. Typically flu vaccine ships quickly, within a week.
- The quantity ordered will be based on historic distribution and use, with consideration given for the increased uptake expected this year, and storage capacity.
- Guidance will be provided in October when practices can begin to order flu vaccine directly in VIMS; without having to reconcile the entire inventory.
- Practices are **not required** to separate pediatric and adult flu vaccine supplies in their refrigerator.
- Information previously emailed on July 7 included a Flu [FAQ](#) posted on our webpage.

**Specific product information including NDC, CPT, and CVX codes are included on the [Vaccine Availability July 2020](#) document.** Add each to your electronic health record since requests for specific brands or presentations cannot be accommodated.

Please note that flu vaccines specifically licensed for people 65 years and older (Fluzone High-Dose and Fludac) are not available for the Program to order from the CDC contract.

## LAIV for the 2020-2021 Season

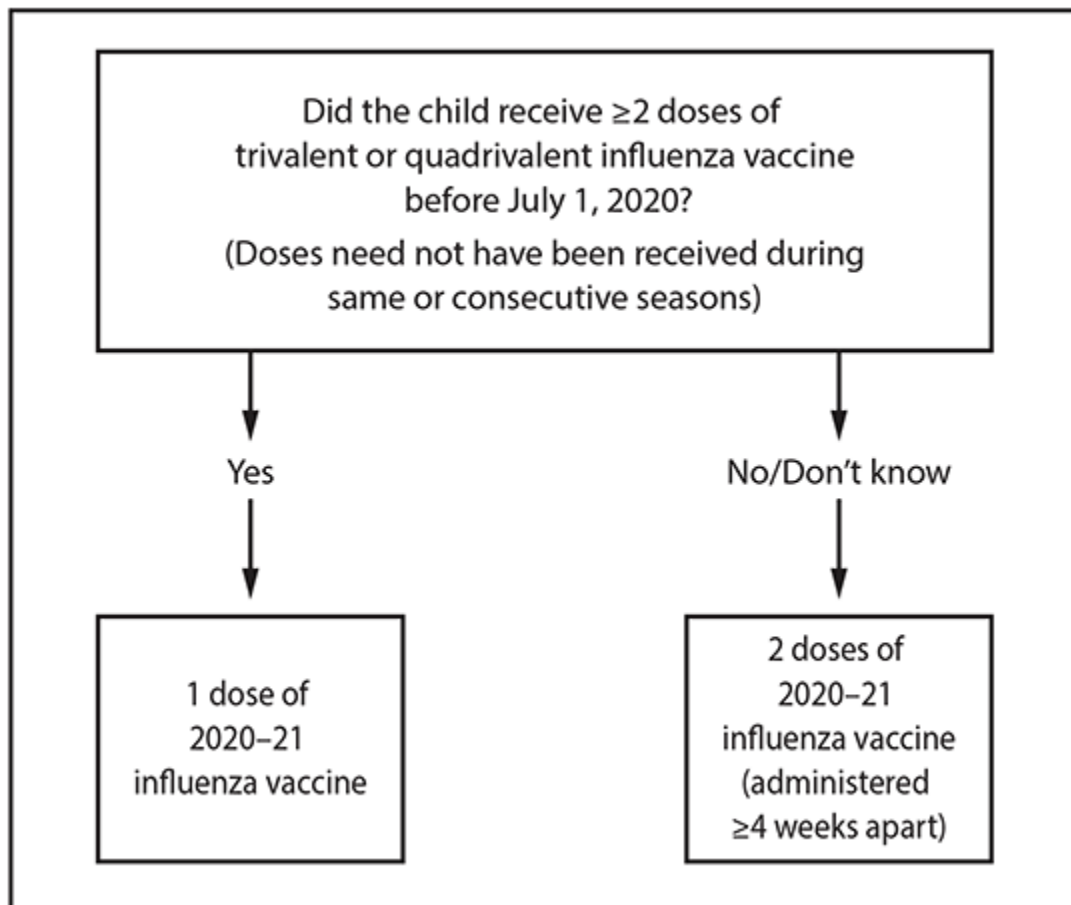
Live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) FluMist-Quad, also known as the “nasal spray” flu vaccine, will be available for patients age 2 through 49 years. However, LAIV accounts for only five percent of the State’s total vaccine supply. It will be available in October when practices place their own orders in VIMS.

## Flu Vaccine Administration Information

**Reminder, new as of last year: Injectable dose volume for children age 6 through 35 months.**

**The dose is 0.5mL for all IIV provided by the Immunization Program for use in all patients 6 months and older.** Children age 6 months through 8 years, who have not previously received two doses of flu vaccine (regardless of the dose volume), need two doses of vaccine. A dose is 0.5ml, so they will receive two 0.5ml doses, 4 weeks apart.

Influenza vaccine dosing algorithm for children aged 6 months through 8 years\* — Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2020-21 influenza season



\* For children aged 8 years who require 2 doses of vaccine, both doses should be administered even if the child turns age 9 years between receipt of dose 1 and dose 2.

Phone: 1-800-640-4374

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