

**INFORMATION ON VACCINATION (CONSENT/DECLINATION)
FOR INFLUENZA VACCINE**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS**

Influenza Vaccine (Flu Shot) for _____ (Year)

**NOTE: CONSULT THE CENTERS FOR
DISEASE CONTROL FOR ANNUAL
UPDATES CONCERNING VACCINE
INFORMATION**

Influenza is a serious disease caused by a virus that spreads from infected persons to the nose or throat of others. The "influenza season" in the U.S. is from November through April each year. Influenza can cause fever, sore throat, cough, headache, chills, and muscle aches. People of any age can get influenza. Most people are ill with influenza for only a few days, but some get much sicker and may need to be hospitalized. Influenza causes thousands of deaths each year, mostly among the elderly. Influenza vaccine can prevent influenza. Influenza Vaccine Influenza viruses change often. Therefore, influenza vaccine is updated each year to make sure it is as effective as possible. Protection develops about 2 weeks after getting the vaccination and may last up to a year.

Persons who should receive the influenza vaccine:

Individuals in any of the following categories:

1. Chronic disorders of the cardiovascular or pulmonary systems,
2. Health individuals 65 years of age or older,
3. Adults with chronic metabolic diseases, including diabetes mellitus, renal dysfunction, anemia, or immunosuppression,
4. Anyone who has extensive contact with high risk individuals,
5. Pregnant women with a medical condition that increases the risk of complications from influenza (should be given after the first trimester),
6. Persons living in dormitories or in other crowded conditions, to prevent outbreaks,
7. Anyone who wants to reduce their chance of catching influenza.

Persons who should not receive the influenza vaccine:

1. Those who have allergic sensitivity to eggs, chicken feathers, chickens or chicken dander,
2. Those who have a hypersensitivity to any components of the vaccine,
3. Have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS),
4. Anyone with a current febrile illness.

When should I get influenza vaccine?

Because influenza activity can start as early as December, the best time to get influenza vaccine is during October and November. But getting the vaccine after November can still provide protection. A new vaccination is needed each year. Influenza vaccine can be given at the same time as other vaccines, including pneumococcal vaccine.

Can I get influenza even if I get the vaccine this year?

Yes. Influenza viruses change often, and they might not always be covered by the vaccine. But vaccinated people who do get influenza often have a milder case than those who did not get the injection. Also, many people call any illness with fever and cold symptoms "the flu." They may expect influenza vaccine to prevent these illnesses, but influenza vaccine is effective only against illness caused by influenza viruses, and not against other illnesses.

Name:	
Register No.	SSN:
Institution	

What are the risks from influenza vaccine?

A vaccine, like any medicine, is capable of causing serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of a vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small. Almost all people who get influenza vaccine have no serious problems. The viruses in the vaccine are killed, so you cannot get influenza from the vaccine. Mild problems include soreness, redness, swelling where the injection was given, fever, and body aches. If these problems occur, they usually begin soon after the vaccination and last 1-2 days. Life-threatening allergic reactions are very rare. If they do occur, it is within a few minutes to a few hours after the injection.

I, _____, have read the above statement about the influenzavaccination. I have provided with updated information and have had the opportunity to ask questions about the benefits and risks receiving this vaccination.

FOR WOMEN

Pregnancy can increase the risk for complications from the flu, and pregnant women are more likely to be hospitalized from complications of the flu than non-pregnant women of the same age. In previous worldwide outbreaks of the flu (pandemics of 1918-19 and 1957-58), deaths among pregnant women were associated with the flu. Pregnancy can change the immune system in the mother, as well as affect her cardiovascular system (heart and lung function). These changes may place pregnant women at increased risk for complications from the flu.

Because the flu vaccination is made from inactivated viruses (the viruses are killed), many experts consider flu vaccinations safe during any stage of pregnancy. However, since miscarriages (spontaneous abortion) most often occur in the first trimester of pregnancy, experts have traditionally not given a flu vaccination during the first trimester to avoid a coincidental association with miscarriage.

Women who will be beyond the first 3 months of pregnancy during the flu season should get a flu vaccination. Pregnant women who have medical problems that increase their risk for complications from the flu should get a flu vaccination before the flu season, no matter their stage of pregnancy.

Signature of the Recipient

Signature of Witness

DECLINATION FOR VACCINE

I do not want to receive the influenza vaccination at this time.

Signature of the Patient

Date

Signature of Witness

(This form may be replicated via WP)