

Influenza Vaccine Safe and Effective

Give Your Baby an Extra Protection



Centre for Health Protection website
www.chp.gov.hk

24-Hour Health Education Hotline of the Department of Health
2833 0111

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衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection



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Influenza vaccine protects pregnant women and infants

Influenza vaccination in pregnant women can reduce the risk of both mother and infant from getting acute respiratory infections. It also reduces cardiopulmonary complications and the associated hospitalisations in pregnant women. Hence, the World Health Organization and the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases of the Centre for Health Protection recommend pregnant women as the highest priority for influenza vaccination.

The inactivated influenza vaccine is safe and effective to both mother and foetus

The World Health Organization considers the inactivated influenza vaccine is safe in pregnancy and there is no evidence showing the vaccine can cause abnormality in the foetus even if given during the first trimester.

Pregnant women should get vaccinated now

The local influenza season in winter usually occurs in the first quarter of each year. Hence, pregnant women should consult their doctors for vaccination as early as possible.

Pregnant women who are Hong Kong residents receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance or holding valid Certificate for Waiver of Medical Charges* can approach your Maternal and Child Health Centres or the Hospital Authority antenatal clinics for free vaccination during antenatal sessions starting in October/November[#] 2015. Please bring along the Certificate of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Recipients or Certificate for Waiver of Medical Charges*.

* The above holders of valid Certificate for Waiver of Medical Charges must be Hong Kong residents.

[#] Please take note of the government's announcement.