

Inactivated seasonal influenza vaccine

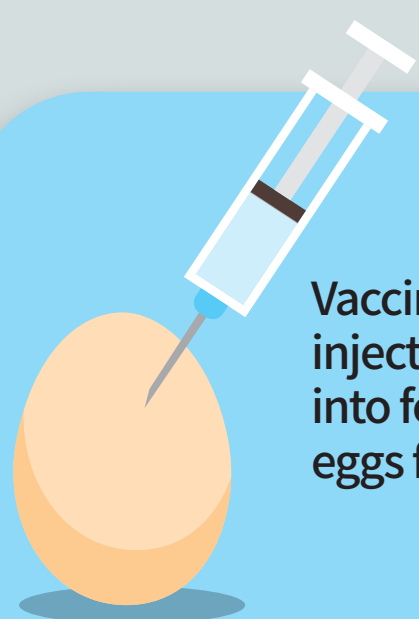
The production process takes around 5 – 6 months:



The World Health Organization (WHO) collects and analyses influenza data from around the world, predicts the predominant virus strains in the next influenza season and makes recommendation on the composition of trivalent and quadrivalent seasonal influenza vaccines (SIV).

Jan	Feb	Mar
Apr	May	Jun
Jul	Aug	Sep
Oct	Nov	Dec

For the northern hemisphere, WHO makes recommendation in February/ March every year for the next influenza season.



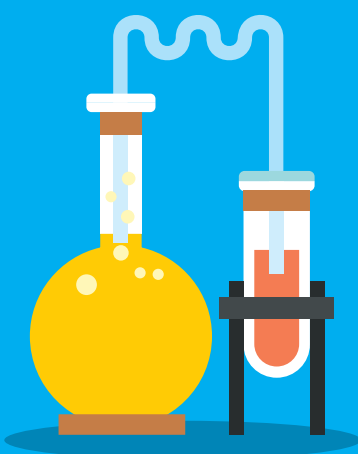
Vaccine manufacturers inject the virus strains into fertilised hens' eggs for replication.



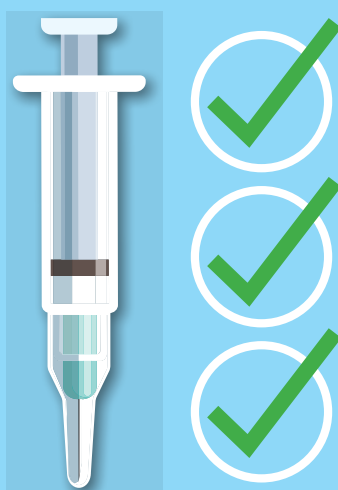
Based on the WHO recommendations, specialised laboratories develop vaccine viruses that are suitable and safe for vaccine production.



Hong Kong locates in the northern hemisphere with the winter influenza season usually occurring from January to March/ April and hence adopts the recommendation for northern hemisphere.



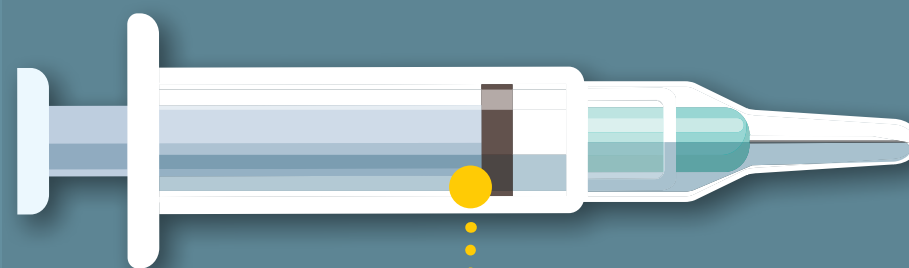
Vaccines have to go through the processes of splitting, inactivation, purification and testing.



After tested to be potent, sterile and safe, regulatory approval from individual country/area will be sought and the vaccines will be distributed to the market.



Inactivated SIV available in Hong Kong



Does not contain live virus as the virus is killed during the inactivation process.

Contains very little amount of egg protein after repeated purification. Even people who are allergic to eggs are generally safe to receive vaccination.

Single-dose inactivated SIV does not require preservatives and hence there is no preservative of mercuric compound.

Does not have adjuvant containing aluminium.



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Revised in October 2019