

Seasonal Influenza Vaccination

Live-attenuated Influenza Vaccine and Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Health Professionals)



	Live-attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)	Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (IIV)
Recommended Age	2 - 49 years	6 months or above
Route of Administration	Intranasal	Mostly intramuscular (some can be administered by subcutaneous injection)
Composition*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quadrivalent • Contains weakened live influenza virus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trivalent or Quadrivalent • Does not contain live influenza virus
Dosing Schedule	<p>Receive annually (preferably before winter influenza season) to offer protection for both winter and summer seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons aged 9 years or above: Single dose • Children below 9 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Single dose for those who have received influenza vaccine before ◦ Two doses with an interval of at least 4 weeks are required for vaccine-naive children 	
Simultaneous Administration with Other Inactivated Vaccines (e.g. Hepatitis B vaccine) or Live Vaccines (e.g. MMR vaccine)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other live vaccines: can only be administered on the same day or at least 4 weeks apart • Other inactivated vaccines: no restriction, i.e. can be administered simultaneously or at any interval between doses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other live or inactivated vaccines: no restriction, i.e. can be given simultaneously or at any interval between doses • If IIV and other vaccine are given at the same time, different vaccines should be given at different injection sites
Adverse Reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nasal congestion or runny nose in all ages • Fever in children • Sore throat in adults 	<p>Local reactions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain • Redness • Swelling <p>Non-specific symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Chills • Malaise • Myalgia
Contraindications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of severe allergic reaction to any vaccine component or a previous dose of any influenza vaccine • Concomitant aspirin or salicylate-containing therapy in children and adolescents • Children 2 years through 4 years who have asthma or who have had a history of wheezing in the past 12 months • Children and adults who are immunocompromised due to any cause • Close contacts and caregivers of severely immunosuppressed persons who require a protected environment • Pregnancy • Receipt of influenza antiviral medication within previous 48 hours 	<p>History of severe allergic reaction to any vaccine component or a previous dose of any influenza vaccine</p>

* Both LAIV and IIV are recommended for use in Hong Kong. For the 2020-21 season, all available SIV in Hong Kong are quadrivalent SIV.

