

INFORMED CONSENT FOR FLU VACCINE

Influenza (flu) is a respiratory infection caused by viruses that spread from person to person through coughing, sneezing, and close contact. When people get the flu, they may have fever, chills, headaches, dry cough or muscle aches. Illness may last several days, or a week, or more and complete recovery is usual. However, complications may lead to pneumonia or death in some people. It is not possible to estimate the risk of an individual getting the flu this year, but for the elderly and for people with diabetes or heart, lung, or kidney diseases, flu may be especially serious. It is recommended that everyone 6 months and older receive the flu vaccine. An injection of flu vaccine will not give you the flu, because the vaccine is made from killed viruses. The vaccine is made from viruses selected by the office of Biologics, Food and Drug Administration, and the Public Health Service. **Side effects** of influenza vaccine are generally mild in adults and occur at low frequency. These reactions consist of tenderness at the injection site, fever, chills, headaches, or muscular aches. These symptoms last up to 48 hours. A small number of persons who received the 1976 swine flu vaccine suffered a paralysis called Guillian-Barre Syndrome (GBS). GBS is typically characterized by a paralysis that begins in the hands or feet and then moves up the arms or legs or both. GBS is usually self-limiting, and most persons with GBS recover without permanent weakness. In approximately 5% of the cases a permanent or even fatal form of paralysis may occur. In 1976, GBS appeared with excess frequency among persons who had received the 1976 Swine Vaccine. For the ten weeks following vaccination, the risk of GBS was found to be approximately ten cases for every one million persons vaccinated. This represents a five-to-six time's higher risk than in unvaccinated persons. Younger persons (under twenty-five) had a lower risk than others and also had a lower case fatality rate. Data on the occurrence of GBS have been collected during three influenza seasons since the surveillance began in 1978. These data suggest that, in contrast to the 1976 situation, the risk of GBS in recipients of influenza vaccine was not significantly higher than that in nonvaccines. Nonetheless, persons who receive influenza vaccine should be aware of this possible risk as compared with the risk of influenza and its complications.

Special Precautions

- Children under three years of age and pregnant women should consult with their personal physicians before receiving this vaccine.
- Persons who are allergic to eggs, chicken feather, or chicken dander should not receive this vaccine until they have consulted their personal physicians.
- Persons with fever should not receive this vaccine. Persons who have received another type of vaccine within the past fourteen days should see their personal physicians before receiving this vaccine.
- If you have a reaction, see your personal physician immediately. If you have questions, please ask.

Please check yes or no for each question.	No	Yes
1. Are you allergic to eggs or egg products?		
2. Do you have an allergy to gentamicin, neomycin, polymixin or gelatin?		
3. Have you ever had a serious reaction to a flu vaccine in the past?		
4. Have you ever had Guillian-Barre Syndrome within 6 weeks after receiving a flu vaccine?		
5. Are you currently ill or have a fever?		
6. Are you allergic to Latex?		

I have read the above information and have had an opportunity to ask questions. I understand the benefits and risks of flu vaccination as described. I request that the vaccine be given to me or to the person named below for whom I am authorized to sign.

Date:		Date of Birth:	
Social Security #:		Eligible to use Clinic:	yes no
Name (Printed) :			
Address:		City:	
State:		Zip:	
Signature of Person to Receive Vaccine (or Parent/Guardian):			
Name of employee associated with clinic:			
Employer:			
Relationship to employee:	Self	Spouse	Dependent

LOT#

EXP: