



October 23, 2025

**To:** Healthcare Providers, Pharmacies and Local Health Departments  
**From:** New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Division of Vaccine Excellence

**HEALTH ADVISORY: 2025-2026 Influenza Season Vaccine Supply Determination  
as Required by Public Health Law § 2112**

**Please distribute to the Infection Control Department, Emergency Department,  
Employee Health Services, Infectious Disease Department, Director of Nursing, Medical  
Director, Director of Pharmacy, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and all primary care clinics.**

## SUMMARY

- Influenza vaccine manufacturers are not reporting any influenza vaccine shortages nor significant delays in distribution this season.
- The Commissioner of Health has determined that it appears there will be an **adequate supply** of influenza vaccine which complies with the thresholds for thimerosal set forth in Public Health Law § 2112 for the 2025-2026 influenza season.
- Of note: the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices voted on June 26, 2025, to recommend that all children, pregnant people, and adults receive influenza vaccine in single dose preparations that are thimerosal free. Due to this recommendation, only thimerosal free influenza vaccine will be available during the 2025-2026 influenza season.

## INFLUENZA VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New York State Department of Health both strongly recommend that all persons aged 6 months and older get the influenza vaccine.
- **New for the 2025-2026 influenza season:**
  - The composition of the strains for this year's vaccine includes an updated H3N2 strain.
  - FluMist has been approved for self-administration by people 18 years and older and for administration by a caregiver who is 18 years and older for children 2-17 years.
  - The Food and Drug Administration expanded the approval for Flublock down to 9 years of age. It was previously approved for people 18 years and older.
  - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices made a recommendation for children, pregnant persons, and adults to receive only influenza vaccines in single-dose preparations that are free of thimerosal.
    - Due to this recommendation, there is no Afluria presentation for children 6 to 35 months of age. This is because the dose for that age is 0.25 mL and single dose presentations are only available in the 0.5 mL dose. Children

6-35 months of age can receive one of the other 4 vaccines approved for their age and available in single dose preparations.

- Influenza vaccination is especially important for persons who are at high risk for influenza-related complications, including persons who are pregnant, adults 65 years and older, children younger than 5 years old and people with chronic health conditions ([People at Higher Risk of Flu Complications | CDC](#)).
- People who take care of, or live with, individuals who are at high risk for influenza-related complications should also be vaccinated against influenza. All healthcare workers should be vaccinated because of the risk of acquiring and transmitting influenza to others.
- Healthcare providers should not defer influenza vaccination due to lack of a preferred brand if another age-appropriate brand is available.
- The CDC has made a preferential recommendation for influenza vaccine for those 65 years and older to receive either high-dose inactivated influenza vaccine, recombinant influenza vaccine, or adjuvanted inactivated influenza vaccine. If none of these are available at an opportunity to vaccinate, then any other age-appropriate influenza vaccine should be used. The CDC does not preferentially recommend any brand of influenza vaccine for other age groups.
- Influenza vaccine should continue to be offered if influenza viruses are circulating locally, and unexpired vaccine is available. Typically, influenza cases are reported well into the spring.

#### **2025-2026 INFLUENZA SEASONAL VACCINE SUPPLY DETERMINATION AS REQUIRED BY PUBLIC HEALTH LAW § 2112**

- New York State Public Health Law § 2112 prohibits the administration of influenza vaccines containing more than trace amounts of thimerosal, a mercury-containing preservative, to children less than 3 years of age and people who know they are pregnant.
- Of note: the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices voted on June 26, 2025 to recommend that all children, pregnant people, and adults receive influenza vaccine in single dose preparations that are thimerosal free. Due to this recommendation, only thimerosal free influenza vaccine will be available during the 2025-2026 influenza season.
- Pursuant to Public Health Law § 2112(3), the Commissioner of Health has determined that it appears there will be an adequate supply of influenza vaccine for children less than 3 years of age and persons who are pregnant, which complies with the thresholds set forth in Public Health Law § 2112(3) for the 2025-2026 influenza season. This determination is based, in part, on the fact that at the June meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), ACIP voted that no thimerosal containing influenza vaccine should be used this year and as a result, there will be no thimerosal containing vaccine available for administration.

#### **INFLUENZA VACCINE AVAILABILITY**

- The CDC and vaccine manufacturers project that they will supply as many as 154 million doses of influenza vaccine for the 2025-2026 season. Neither the CDC nor influenza vaccine manufacturers currently report any influenza vaccine shortages or significant delays in distribution.

- Providers seeking to order additional influenza vaccine are recommended to check the Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System (IVATS) at <https://www.izsummitpartners.org/ivats/>. IVATS, supported by the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit, contains information from approved, enrolled, and participating wholesale influenza vaccine distributors or manufacturers and is updated regularly throughout the influenza season. Healthcare providers ordering additional influenza vaccine mid-season may need to use different vaccine suppliers or brands than their preferred suppliers or brands.
- Providers enrolled in the NYS Vaccines for Children (VFC) or Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Programs can place additional influenza vaccine orders for their eligible patients in the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS). Please note that influenza vaccine doses administered must be accurately reported to NYSIIS before additional orders will be placed. If you have any questions, please call the Vaccines for Children Call Center at 1-800-543-7468.
- Providers who do not administer influenza vaccine and seek to refer patients for influenza vaccination should check with local pharmacies and their local health department to determine the best place to refer their patients to receive influenza vaccine.

## RESOURCES

- NYSDOH Influenza web page: <https://health.ny.gov/flu>
- Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2025–26 Influenza Season:  
[https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/74/wr/mm7432a2.htm?s\\_cid=OS\\_mm7432a2\\_w](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/74/wr/mm7432a2.htm?s_cid=OS_mm7432a2_w)
  - A list of all vaccine formulations and manufacturers is available in table 1 on this webpage.
- CDC information for the 2025-2026 influenza season including information regarding seasonal influenza vaccine supply for the U.S. 2025-2026 influenza season:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/2025-2026.html>
- CDC Influenza Vaccine Information for Health Professionals:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm>
- For additional information, please contact the NYSDOH Division of Vaccine Excellence at 518-473-4437 or [immunize@health.ny.gov](mailto:immunize@health.ny.gov)