



# FACT SHEET

## FLULAVAL<sup>®</sup> TETRA & FLUZONE<sup>®</sup> (QUADRIVALENT INACTIVATED VACCINE)

### What is the Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV)?

QIV, is a vaccine that is given by intramuscular injection to help protect against influenza infection. This vaccine is publicly funded for individuals'  $\geq 6$  months of age. QIV is a four component vaccine that protects against two influenza A strains and two influenza B strains.

### Are there side effects from QIV?

QIV, like any medicine, can cause side effects, which in most cases are mild. Side effects after receiving the vaccine include redness, swelling, and pain at the injection site, tiredness /weakness, headache, and fever.

### Can the vaccine be given to individuals when they are ill?

QIV can be given to individuals with minor illnesses with or without fever (e.g., a cold). Those with a severe acute illness with or without fever should usually wait until the symptoms subside before being immunized.

### Who should not get the Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV)?

The following individuals should not get the vaccine:

- People who have had a serious allergy (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose or to any ingredient in the vaccine, with the exception of eggs.
- People who have developed Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) within six weeks of a previous influenza vaccination

### How many doses are required?

Children under nine years of age receiving seasonal influenza vaccine for the **first time** should receive two doses given at least four weeks apart.

Any child greater than nine years of age, or who has received the influenza vaccine before will require only one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine.

### Can the vaccine cause influenza?

The QIV contains inactivated influenza virus so individuals cannot get influenza from the vaccine.

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## How well does the influenza vaccine protect against influenza?

Influenza viruses change constantly from one season to the next or they can even change within the course of one influenza season. The influenza vaccine is guided by surveillance and research which helps to indicate which strains will be the most common during the season as recommended by the World Health Organization. It takes about two weeks following immunization to develop protection against influenza. As protection wanes over time and virus strains change frequently, it is important to be immunized each season. The vaccine will not protect against colds and other respiratory illnesses that may be mistaken for influenza.

## When should I call my health care provider?

Call your health care provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency department if any of the following symptoms develop within three days of getting the vaccine:



- hives
- swelling of the face or mouth
- trouble breathing
- high fever (over 40°C or 104°F)
- convulsions or seizures

## Who should I talk to if I have any more questions?

Talk to your health care provider or call Renfrew County and District Health Unit Health Info Line at **613-735-8666 or 1-800-267-1097 Ext. 666.**

## How do I keep track of this vaccination?

After you get any vaccination, make sure your personal immunization record, such as your "Yellow Card", is updated. Keep it in a safe place.

To contact us or for more information	
	<b>613-735-8653 or 1-800-267-1097</b>
	<a href="http://www.rcdhu.com">www.rcdhu.com</a> <b>Healthy Living Immunization</b> <b>Immunizations for Children</b>
	<b>7 International Dr, Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5</b>
 	<b>@RCDHealthunit</b>

**Source:** Adapted from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

*2018/2019 Universal Influenza Immunization Program Health Care Provider Q&A: Information for individuals ≥65 years of age. September 2018*

*2018/2019 Universal Influenza Immunization Program Health Care Provider Q & A: General information; September 2018*

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