



FACT SHEET

FLULAVAL[®] TETRA
(QUADRIVALENT INACTIVATED VACCINE)

&

FLUZONE[®] QUADRIVALENT
(QUADRIVALENT INACTIVATED VACCINE)

≥ 6 MONTHS OF AGE

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 ≥ 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?

It is dependent on the severity of the symptoms. Those with a severe acute illness with or without fever should wait until the symptoms subside before being immunized.

Individuals with symptoms of acute illness, including minor symptoms such as sore throat, should be recommended to complete the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool (available at: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) self-assessment \(ontario.ca\)](https://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus-self-assessment)). If the individual screens negative using the Self-Assessment Tool, influenza immunization may be provided.

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

The following individuals should not get the vaccine:

- People who have had a serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose or to any ingredient in the vaccine.
- Egg-allergic individuals can still receive the influenza vaccine and are asked to reach out to their healthcare provider. RCDHU will not immunize individuals who have an anaphylactic allergy to eggs.
- Anyone who has developed Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) within six weeks of a previous influenza vaccination should generally NOT be vaccinated, HOWEVER, this should be weighed against the risks of not being protected against influenza.

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.

Does QIV protect against COVID-19 virus?

The influenza vaccine will not protect against respiratory viruses other than influenza, including the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, but will help prevent infection and illness from the influenza virus.

Continued on reverse

Will the influenza vaccine increase risk of illness with COVID-19?

Expert groups and evidence indicate that getting the influenza vaccine will not increase your risk of COVID-19 infection or severe outcomes related to COVID-19

Can the influenza vaccine be given at the same time as other vaccines?

The influenza QIV vaccines may be given at the same time as other vaccines, or at any time before or after, other vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines for individuals 5 years of age and older ONLY.

Co-administration with COVID-19 vaccine is NOT currently recommended for individuals 6 months to under 5 years of age. It is advised to wait 14 days between vaccine products when administering COVID-19 vaccine.

Can these QIV products cause influenza?

No. The publicly funded QIV products are all inactivated vaccines so individuals cannot get influenza from the vaccine.

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 immunization intake line at: **613-732-9436 or 1-833-773-0004**.

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	
	613-732-9436 or 1-833-773-0004
	www.rcdhu.com Healthy Living Immunization Immunizations for Children
	141 Lake Street, Pembroke, ON, K8A 5L8
	 @RCDHealthunit

Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Health.

2022/2023 Universal Influenza Immunization Program Health Care Provider Q&A: Information for individuals 6 months to 64 years of age. September 2022.

2022/2023 Universal Influenza Immunization Program Health Care Provider Q & A: General information; September 2022.

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