

# ACIP Provisional Recommendations for the Prevention and Control of Influenza

Date of ACIP vote: February 27, 2008

Date of posting of provisional recommendations: March 25, 2008

Tentative date of publication of recommendations in *CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*: June 2008

On February 27, 2008, the ACIP made new recommendations for use of influenza vaccine for the 2008-2009 influenza season.

## New provisional recommendations for the prevention and control of influenza (2008-2009 influenza season):

- Annual vaccination for all children aged 6 months through 18 years is recommended. Annual vaccination of children aged 6 months up to their fifth birthday (through 59 months of age) should continue. If feasible, annual vaccination of all children aged 5 years through 18 years should begin in 2008 when the vaccine for the 2008-2009 influenza season becomes available.
- Annual vaccination for all children aged 6 months through 18 years should begin no later than during the 2009-2010 influenza season.
- The Vaccines for Children Fund resolution is effective July 1, 2008 (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/downloads/resolutions/0208influenza.pdf>).
- Persons at higher risk of influenza complications because of underlying medical conditions, children aged 6 months through 23 months, and persons aged >49 years should receive TIV. Either trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (TIV) or live, attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) should be used when vaccinating persons aged 2 through 49 years who do not have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza complications.
- Children aged 6 months through 8 years should receive two doses of influenza vaccine (doses separated by 4 or more weeks) if they have not been vaccinated previously at any time with at least one dose of either LAIV or TIV.
- Clinicians and immunization program staff should screen for possible reactive airway disease when considering use of LAIV for children aged 2 through 4 years, and should avoid use of this vaccine in children with asthma or a recent wheezing episode. The ACIP has previously provided recommendations on screening for possible reactive airway disease in children aged 2 through 4 years (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5646a4.htm>).
- Recommendations for annual vaccination of persons in other age or risk groups were not changed, and can be found in Prevention and Control of Influenza: Recommendations of the ACIP, 2007. (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5606a1.htm>).
- The 2008-2009 trivalent vaccine virus strains are A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like, A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like, and B/Florida/4/2006-like antigens. All three strains are different from the 2007-2008 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine.
- The antiviral medications recommended for chemoprophylaxis or treatment of influenza (oseltamivir or zanamivir) have not changed for the 2008-2009 influenza season and can be found at: (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5606a1.htm>).

Location of this page on CDC website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/provisional/downloads/flu-3-21-08-508.pdf>