Flublok®

Influenza vaccine

Pure Safe Effective

Information Sheet

What is the flu?

The flu (influenza) is a serious respiratory illness that is caused by the influenza virus. The flu is easily spread among people through coughing and sneezing. A person is contagious one day prior to the onset of symptoms and continues to be contagious for up to one week. Children can spread the flu beyond 7 days. The flu can be mild to severe.
Symptoms may include:

Fever or chills • Cough • Sore Throat • Runny or stuffy nose • Muscle or body aches • Headache • Fatigue Diarrhea or vomiting - more prominent in children

Complications can include pneumonia and inflammation of the heart.

Why get vaccinated?

Getting the flu vaccine is the best way you can protect yourself and others from the flu and its possible complications. Every year in the United States, influenza and its related complications result in an estimated 226,000 hospitalizations and 3,000-49,000 deaths.[1] The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that 5-20% of Americans get the flu each year.[2] These statistics would decrease if more people got vaccinated.

What is Flublok?

Flublok is a new class of influenza vaccine, called RIV3 (recombinant hemagglutinin influenza vaccine, trivalent formulation). RIV3 vaccine is made by using modern DNA and cell culture technology to produce just the protective ingredients needed for influenza vaccination (i.e., the hemagglutinin (HA) protein) without growing influenza virus.

Flublok Features:

- Highly Pure - no egg protein, gelatin, thimerosal (mercury derivative), latex, antibiotics, formaldehyde, or influenza virus

- 3 times more antigen than traditional flu vaccines (3x45mcg versus 3x15mcg hemagglutinin protein)*

- HA sequences match wild-type influenza viruses (no acquired mutations during the manufacturing process that may make traditional flu vaccines ineffective)[3]

Flublok is approved by the U.S. FDA for adults 18 and older to prevent influenza disease.
The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which advises the Government on vaccines, has specifically recommended Flublok for adults that have ever had a known or suspected egg allergy, regardless of severity.[4]

Who should recieve a flu vaccine?

- The ACIP recommends that everyone over 6 months of age receive an annual flu vaccine.
- Individuals at high risk for flu complications, such as those that are immune-compromised or have other health conditions, and their close contacts should get vaccinated.
- Healthy young adults should be vaccinated to prevent spreading the flu.
- Pregnant women should be vaccinated to avoid pregnancy-related flu complications.
- The CDC classifies Health Care Providers as a high priority group for yearly flu vaccinations.

*Flublok demonstrated a higher antibody response to the A strains during 2 clinical trials in adults ≥50 years old. The B strain antibody response was comparable to traditional trivalent vaccine.

Sources
1 American Lung Association. Influenza. Available at: www.lung.org/lung-disease/influenza.
2 Flu.gov. Seasonal Flu. Available at: www.flu.gov/about_the_flu/seasonal/
3 Skowronski DM, Janjua NZ, De Serres G, Sabaiduc S, Eshaghi A, et al. (2014) L1ow 2012-13 Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Associated with Mutation in the Egg-Adapted H3N2 Vaccine Strain Not Antigenic Drift in Circulating Viruses PLoS ONE 9(3): e92153, doi:10. 1371/journal.pone.0092153
4 CDC. CDC advisory committee recommends an influenza vaccine option for persons with egg allergy, June 20, 2013. Available at: www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2013/a0620-FluBlok.html.

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If you notice any problems or symptoms following vaccination, please contact your health care professional immediately. Vaccination with Flublok may not protect all individuals.

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FAQs

1. What is the safety profile of Flublok?

- Answer: The most common side effect from Flublok is pain at the site of injection. Headache, fatigue or muscle ache may occur. Tell the doctor if you have ever experienced Guillain-Barré syndrome (severe muscle weakness) or have had a severe allergic reaction to any component of Flublok vaccine. Vaccination with Flublok may not protect all individuals. Clinical effectiveness in adults 50 and older is based on the immune response elicited by Flublok and not on demonstration of decreased influenza disease. Please see the complete Package Insert available at www.flublok.com or call 203-686-0800 for more information.

2. Can I get the flu from Flublok?

- Answer: You absolutely cannot get the flu from Flublok.

3. How is Flublok administered?

- Answer: Flublok is given in your upper arm - the same place you receive other flu shots.

4. What makes Flublok different from other flu shots?

- Answer: Flublok is the only licensed flu vaccine that does not use eggs, antibiotics or influenza virus in any part of the manufacturing process. Flublok does not contain thimerosal (mercury derivative), gelatin or latex. Flublok has 3 times more antigen than traditional flu vaccines*.

5. Is Flublok for everyone?

- Answer: Flublok is approved for adults 18 and older.

6. Can I take Flublok if I am pregnant?

- Answer: The CDC recommends that all pregnant women get vaccinated for influenza. A pregnancy registry is available for Flublok. Contact Protein Sciences Corporation by calling 1-888-855-7871.

7. How much does Flublok cost?

- Answer: Flu vaccines are typically covered by most insurance companies. For more information on your specific influenza vaccine coverage, please contact your insurance company, employer or school.

8. Where can I get Flublok?

- Answer: The availability of Flublok is based on providers ordering the product. You can ask your doctor to order Flublok or visit our Flublok Finder at www.flublok.com to find a location that carries Flublok near you. Employers can book workplace Flublok clinics through Health-At-Work by visiting www.health-at-work.net.

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