

do10



Fight the Flu

1. Get Vaccinated

FLU VACCINE CONCERNS ADDRESSED

INFLUENZA (FLU) VACCINE CANNOT GIVE YOU THE FLU

- The flu shot uses an inactivated (killed) virus and intranasal mist /spray uses a live-attenuated (weakened) virus, neither vaccine can result in a flu infection or flu illness.

GUILLAIN-BARRÉ SYNDROME (GBS)

- Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) is a rare disorder when a person's own immune system damages the nerves, causing muscle weakness, and sometimes paralysis.
- In 1976, an earlier type of swine flu vaccine was associated with cases of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS). Since then, flu vaccines have not been clearly linked to GBS.
- The risk of getting severely ill from flu illness far outweighs the risk of getting GBS following the flu vaccine.

SYNCOPE (FAINTING)

- Syncope, or fainting, has been reported after vaccination with any vaccine and is common among adolescent patients.
- To avoid injuries, sit or lie down before receiving the vaccine and wait 15 minutes after vaccination before leaving the vaccination site.

THIMEROSAL (MERCURY)

- Thimerosal is a mercury-based preservative used in some flu vaccines to keep them free from contamination of microorganisms.
- Flu vaccine is manufactured in several formulations:

- Single-dose vials do not contain thimerosal
- Intranasal (through the nose) do not contain thimerosal
- Pre-filled syringes have a trace amount of thimerosal
- Multi-dose vials do contain thimerosal

ADJUVANTS

- Adjuvants can be used in vaccines to increase a vaccine's effectiveness.
- Currently, no U.S. flu vaccine contains adjuvants.

LATEX ALLERGIES

- Latex is not an ingredient of vaccines. However, latex may be present in seal stoppers of vaccine vials or in rubber parts of syringes.
- People with latex allergies need to ask their healthcare provider about the products used to administer the vaccines.

MANUFACTURER LOCATION

- U.S. flu vaccines are made in the following countries:
 - MedImmune is made in United States
 - Sanofi Pasteur is made in United States
 - Novartis is made in United Kingdom
 - Commonwealth Serum Laboratories is made in Australia
 - GlaxoSmithKline is made in Germany

For more information about flu vaccine safety, please go to www.cdc.gov or www.flu.gov.

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For more information, please call 1.866.264.4073 • www.adph.org/do10