

# Gable Health Center Influenza Consent Form

Information About Person To Receive Vaccine (Please Print)

_____	_____	_____
Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
_____		
Mailing Address		
_____	_____	_____
City	State	Zip
_____	_____	_____
Date of Birth	Area Code	Phone Number

## About the flu

Influenza, more commonly known as "the flu," is a respiratory infection caused by influenza viruses. Symptoms of influenza may include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Extreme tiredness
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches

Most people who get influenza will recover in one to two weeks, but some people may develop life-threatening complications (such as pneumonia). It is not possible to estimate your risk of getting the flu this year, but for the elderly, the very young, and people with underlying chronic medical conditions (such as diabetes, heart, lung, or kidney diseases), the flu can be especially serious.

## About the influenza virus vaccine

Flu vaccines are made from viruses selected by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the US Food and Drug Administration. The flu vaccine is an inactive vaccine, which means that it is made from viruses that have been killed; an inactive vaccine cannot give you influenza. There are three potential benefits to getting vaccinated:

1. It can help prevent you from becoming ill with influenza
2. It may reduce the severity of influenza if you do contract it
3. It may reduce the chance of transmitting influenza to those around you – particularly those who may be at increased risk for complications from the flu.

## Risks and possible side effects of vaccination

Side effects of influenza vaccine are generally mild. The most common side effect of vaccination is soreness at the vaccination site. Other side effects include fever, tiredness, muscle pain, and rarely, allergic reactions. As is the case with most drugs and vaccines, there is a chance that a serious allergic reaction, serious illness, or even death could occur as a result of vaccination with the flu vaccine.

**The flu vaccine may not protect 100% of persons who are vaccinated.**

Did you ever have a reaction to a previous dose of flu vaccine? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Do you have serious allergic reaction to eggs? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Do you have a history of Gullian-Barre Syndrome (a severe paralytic illness)? ( ) Yes ( ) No

I have read or have had explained to me the information regarding the flu, the flu vaccine, and possible side effects of the flu vaccine. I have had a chance to ask questions. All questions were addressed to my satisfaction. I believe I understand the benefits and risks of influenza vaccine and ask that the vaccine be given to me or the person named above for whom I am authorized to make this request.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

### For Clinical Use Only

Vaccination Date: _____	Dosage: _____
Injection Site: _____	Route: _____
Manufacturer: _____	Lot Number: _____
_____	Exp. Date: _____
Signature of Vaccine Administrator	

# Influenza (Flu) Vaccine (Inactivated or Recombinant): *What you need to know*

Many vaccine information statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis)

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis)

## 1. Why get vaccinated?

Influenza vaccine can prevent **influenza (flu)**.

Flu is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year, usually between October and May. Anyone can get the flu, but it is more dangerous for some people. Infants and young children, people 65 years and older, pregnant people, and people with certain health conditions or a weakened immune system are at greatest risk of flu complications.

Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus infections, and ear infections are examples of flu-related complications. If you have a medical condition, such as heart disease, cancer, or diabetes, flu can make it worse.

Flu can cause fever and chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and runny or stuffy nose. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

In an average year, **thousands of people in the United States die from flu**, and many more are hospitalized. Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related visits to the doctor each year.

## 2. Influenza vaccines

CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated every flu season. **Children 6 months through 8 years of age** may need 2 doses during a single flu season. **Everyone else** needs only 1 dose each flu season.

It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination.

There are many flu viruses, and they are always changing. Each year a new flu vaccine is made to protect against the influenza viruses believed to be likely to cause disease in the upcoming flu season.

Even when the vaccine doesn't exactly match these viruses, it may still provide some protection.

Influenza vaccine **does not cause flu**.

Influenza vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

## 3. Talk with your health care provider

Tell your vaccination provider if the person getting the vaccine:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of influenza vaccine**, or has any **severe, life-threatening allergies**
- Has ever had **Guillain-Barré Syndrome** (also called "GBS")

In some cases, your health care provider may decide to postpone influenza vaccination until a future visit.

Influenza vaccine can be administered at any time during pregnancy. People who are or will be pregnant during influenza season should receive inactivated influenza vaccine.

People with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting influenza vaccine.

Your health care provider can give you more information.



U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

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#### 4. Risks of a vaccine reaction

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- Soreness, redness, and swelling where the shot is given, fever, muscle aches, and headache can happen after influenza vaccination.
- There may be a very small increased risk of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) after inactivated influenza vaccine (the flu shot).

Young children who get the flu shot along with pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13) and/or DTaP vaccine at the same time might be slightly more likely to have a seizure caused by fever. Tell your health care provider if a child who is getting flu vaccine has ever had a seizure.

People sometimes faint after medical procedures, including vaccination. Tell your provider if you feel dizzy or have vision changes or ringing in the ears.

As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

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#### 5. What if there is a serious problem?

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An allergic reaction could occur after the vaccinated person leaves the clinic. If you see signs of a severe allergic reaction (hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, or weakness), call **9-1-1** and get the person to the nearest hospital.

For other signs that concern you, call your health care provider.

Adverse reactions should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Your health care provider will usually file this report, or you can do it yourself. Visit the VAERS website at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov) or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff members do not give medical advice.*

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#### 6. The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

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The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines. Claims regarding alleged injury or death due to vaccination have a time limit for filing, which may be as short as two years. Visit the VICP website at [www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation](http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation) or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim.

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#### 7. How can I learn more?

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- Ask your health care provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Visit the website of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for vaccine package inserts and additional information at [www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines](http://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/vaccines).
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
  - Visit CDC's website at [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).

