

Flu season lasts 13 weeks. Good thing the flu vaccine does, too.

Flu season lasts 13 weeks. Humana supports your care by reminding our members to get their flu shot as soon as it's available. With vaccines that provide flu protection for the entire season, your patients will be able to spend more time with family and friends and less time with the flu.

The World Health Organization (WHO)¹ recommended, and the U.S. Food & Drug Administration² approved, a 2023–2024 Northern Hemisphere vaccination composition mix for trivalent and quadrivalent influenza vaccines with new antigen strains for A H1N2 and a slight change to A H3N2 for non-egg-based formulas. For the fourth year in a row, the egg-based vaccine preparations will have one set of antigens (unique A virus strains), while the cell and recombinant will have another. And while the WHO gave recommendations for both trivalent and quadrivalent formulas, vaccine manufacturers will only be making the quadrivalent versions.³



Egg-based vaccines for 2023–2024; Northern Hemisphere, quadrivalent only

Viral strain
A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus
A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like virus
B/Austria/1359417/2021-like virus (B/Victoria lineage)
B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage)

Cell or recombinant-based vaccines for 2023–2024; Northern Hemisphere, quadrivalent only

Viral strain
A/Wisconsin/67/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus
A/Darwin/6/2021 (H3N2)-like virus
B/Austria/1359417/2021-like virus (B/Victoria lineage)
B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (B/Yamagata lineage)

There will be two quadrivalent options for seniors (65 and older): Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent and Flud Quadrivalent. This is the fourth year where seniors have both options.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)⁴ advises families to vaccinate their children 6 months and older against influenza with any licensed influenza vaccine that is appropriate for the age and health status of the patient. The AAP does not prefer any product over another for children and adolescents with no contraindications.

In addition to encouraging flu vaccinations for those 6 months and older, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention⁵ notes the following patients are at increased risk of infections and complications:

- Pregnant women
- Children, especially those younger than 2 years old
- People 65 years and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions, including asthma, diabetes, heart disease and chronic kidney disease
- People of any age who have immunosuppression
- People living in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities



To facilitate correct reimbursement, the appropriate administration, vaccine and diagnosis codes are needed for each vaccination claim.

- Administration codes for influenza vaccination are 90471, 90472, 90473 and 90474. The Medicare code is G0008. Medicare code G8482 can be used to communicate the vaccination was previously received, possibly elsewhere.
- Vaccine codes can be found below.
- Diagnosis code Z23, encounter for immunization, must be included in any position between 2 and 9.

CPT and HCPCS influenza vaccination codes: 2023–2024

CPT codes	Long description
90662	Influenza virus vaccine (IIV), split virus, preservative-free, enhanced immunogenicity via increased antigen content, for intramuscular use
90672	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, live (LAIV4), for intranasal use
90674	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (ccIIV4), derived from cell cultures, subunit, preservative- and antibiotic-free, 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use
90682	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (RIV4), derived from recombinant DNA, hemagglutinin (HA) protein only, preservative- and antibiotic-free, for intramuscular use
90686	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (IIV4), split virus, preservative-free, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use
90688	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (IIV4), split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use
90694	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (aIIV4), inactivated, adjuvanted, preservative-free, 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use
90756	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (ccIIV4), derived from cell cultures, subunit, antibiotic-free, 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use

HCPCS codes	Long description
Q2035	Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Afluria)
Q2036	Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Flulaval)
Q2037	Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Fluvirin)
Q2038	Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Fluzone)
Q2039	Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (not otherwise specified)

References

1. World Health Organization, last accessed Aug. 10, 2023, www.who.int/news/item/24-02-2023-recommendations-announced-for-influenza-vaccine-composition-for-the-2023-2024-northern-hemisphere-influenza-season.
2. U.S. Food & Drug Administration, last accessed Aug. 10, 2023, www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/lot-release/influenza-vaccine-2023-2024-season.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, last accessed Aug. 10, 2023, www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaxsupply.htm.
4. American Academy of Pediatrics, last accessed Aug. 10, 2023, <https://publications.aap.org/aapnews/news/23734/AAP-continues-to-recommend-flu-vaccine-for>.
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, last accessed Aug. 10, 2023, www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/index.htm.



For support, please contact Humana's Provider Call Center (800-448-6262) or your local market representative.