Flu Vaccines for 2025-26 (United States)

For the **2025-26** influenza season, US influenza vaccines are **all trivalent** (two influenza A-like viruses and one influenza B-type virus).[1] Current ACIP recommendation is for single-dose, thimerosal-free preparations only.[2] The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and WHO both continue to support the use of multi-dose vials of influenza vaccine containing thimerosal as a preservative.[4] This chart reviews approved influenza vaccines for the 2025-26 season. It includes approved ages for use, route of administration, dose, cost, and egg and thimerosal content. For information about efficacy, administration with other vaccines, use in patients who are immunocompromised or pregnant, and more, see our resource, *Communicating About Flu Vaccination*.

--None of the available flu vaccines for 2025-26 contain latex. Information in table is from product labeling, unless otherwise noted[a]--

Brand Name Manufacturer	Route	Approved Ages for Use	Availability (Cost/dose[b])	Contains Thimerosal?[c]	Dose	Comments
Trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV3)						
Afluria Seqirus	IM	≥6 months *Administering Afluria with the PharmaJet Stratis needle-free injector is only approved for ages 18 to 64 years.	0.5 mL PFS (~$22) 5 mL MDV (~$20)	No (PFS) Yes (MDV)	6 to 35 months: • 0.25 mL ≥36 months: • 0.5 mL	• May contain trace amounts of neomycin and polymyxin B.
Fluad Seqirus	IM	≥65 years	0.5 mL PFS (~$79)	No	≥65 years: • 0.5 mL	• A preferred option for ≥65 years old.[3] • This **adjuvanted vaccine** may be abbreviated **aIIV3**.[5] • May contain trace amounts of neomycin and kanamycin. • Per ACIP, adjuvanted influenza vaccines are an option for solid organ transplant recipients ages 18 to 64 years who are taking immunosuppressants.[8]

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Brand Name Manufacturer	Route	Approved Ages for Use	Availability (Cost/dose[b])	Contains Thimerosal?[c]	Dose	Comments
Trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV3), continued						
Fluarix GSK	IM	≥6 months	0.5 mL PFS (~$20)	No	0.5 mL	• May contain trace amounts of gentamicin.
Flucelvax Seqirus	IM	≥6 months	0.5 mL PFS (~$43) 5 mL MDV (~$43)	No (PFS) Yes (MDV)	0.5 mL	• This **cell-cultured** vaccine may be abbreviated **ccIIV3**.[5] • **Egg-free**
FluLaval GSK	IM	≥6 months	0.5 mL PFS (~$20)	No	0.5 mL	None
Fluzone Sanofi Pasteur	IM	≥6 months	0.5 mL PFS (~$20) 5 mL MDV (~$20)	No (PFS) Yes (MDV)	6 to 35 months: • 0.25 mL or 0.5 mL ≥36 months: • 0.5 mL	None
Fluzone High-Dose Sanofi Pasteur	IM	≥65 years	0.5 mL PFS (~$79)	No	0.5 mL	• A preferred option for ≥65 years old.[3] • Per ACIP, high-dose influenza vaccines are an option for solid organ transplant recipients ages 18 to 64 years who are taking immunosuppressants.[8] • Contains 60 mcg of each virus strain compared to 15 mcg in standard-dose IM vaccines.[6] • Fluzone **High-Dose** has a higher risk of adverse effects (injection site reactions, myalgia, headache) compared to Fluzone. • This **high-dose** vaccine may be abbreviated **HD-IIV3**.[5]

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Brand Name Manufacturer	Route	Approved Ages for Use	Availability (Cost/dose[b])	Contains Thimerosal?[c]	Dose	Comments
Trivalent recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV3)						
Flublok Sanofi Pasteur	IM	≥9 years	0.5 mL PFS (~$79)	No	0.5 mL	• A preferred option for ≥65 years old.[3] • **Egg-free** • Contains 45 mcg of each virus strain compared to 15 mcg in standard-dose IM vaccines.[6]
Trivalent live-attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV3)						
FluMist Intranasal Spray MedImmune (an AstraZeneca company)	Intranasal	2 to 49 years	0.2 mL prefilled intranasal sprayer (~$26)	No	0.1 mL per nostril	• Not recommended for patients who are pregnant, immunocompromised, or with certain medical conditions.[7] o See our resource, *Communicating About Flu Vaccination*, for more on who should NOT receive live intranasal flu vaccine. • Has not been studied in patients with severe asthma or active wheezing. • May contain trace amounts of gentamicin. • FluMist is also available for at-home administration in some states through an online pharmacy.[9]

a. Information is from product labeling, unless otherwise noted: Afluria (June 2025); Fluad (July 2025); Fluarix (July 2025); Flucelvax (July 2025); FluLaval (July 2025); Fluzone (July 2025); Fluzone High-Dose Northern Hemisphere (July 2025); Flublok Trivalent (July 2025); FluMist (July 2025).
b. Pricing based on **one dose** at wholesale acquisition cost (WAC). Medication pricing by Elsevier, accessed August 2025.
c. For more information on the safety of thimerosal, see the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (https://www.chop.edu/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-safety/vaccine-ingredients/thimerosal) and immunize.org (https://www.immunize.org/ask-experts/does-the-thimerosal-in-some-vaccines-pose-a-risk/).

Abbreviations: ACIP = Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; GSK = GlaxoSmithKline; IM = intramuscular; MDV = multidose vial; PFS = pre-filled syringe; SDV = single-dose vial.

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Users of this resource are cautioned to use their own professional judgment and consult any other necessary or appropriate sources prior to making clinical judgments based on the content of this document. Our editors have researched the information with input from experts, government agencies, and national organizations. Information and internet links in this article were current as of the date of publication.

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