

Flu Vaccines for 2026-27 (United States)

Updated August 2026

For the 2026-27 influenza season, US influenza vaccines are all trivalent (two influenza A viruses and one influenza B virus).¹ This chart reviews approved influenza vaccines for the 2026-27 season. It includes approved ages for use, route of administration, dose, cost, and egg and thimerosal content. Current ACIP recommendation is for single-dose, thimerosal-free preparations only.² The AAP, ACOG, and WHO continue to support the use of thimerosal as a preservative in multi-dose vials of influenza, including for pregnant patients.^{4,7,8} 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 2026-27 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)						
Fluad Seqirus	IM	≥65 years	0.5 mL PFS (~\$100)	No	0.5 mL	- A preferred option for ≥65 years old.^{3,10} - This adjuvanted vaccine may be abbreviated aIIV3.⁵ - May contain trace amounts of neomycin and kanamycin. - Also an option for solid organ transplant recipients ages 18 to 64 years who are taking immunosuppressants.^{3,10}
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 (~\$60)	No	0.5 mL	- This cell-cultured vaccine may be abbreviated cIIV3.⁵ 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 (~\$110)	No	0.5 mL	- A preferred option for ≥65 years old.^{3,10} - Also an option for solid organ transplant recipients ages 18 to 64 years who are taking immunosuppressants.^{3,10} - 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
Trivalent recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV3)						
Flublok Sanofi Pasteur	IM	≥9 years	0.5 mL PFS (~\$110)	No	0.5 mL	- A preferred option for ≥65 years old.^{3,10} 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 Cost N/A at time of writing.	No	0.1 mL per nostril	- Not recommended for patients who are pregnant, immunocompromised, or with certain medical conditions. - 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
Trivalent Influenza Vaccine, mRNA						
mFlusiva Moderna	IM	≥50 years	Cost N/A at time of writing.	No	0.38 mL	- Approval for ≥65 years of age was accelerated based on immune response data. Trials for effectiveness are ongoing. - More effective than comparator (Fluarix Quadrivalent)(NNT = 125). - Adverse effects (e.g., injection site reactions, axillary swelling, fatigue) were more common than with the comparator.

Abbreviations: AAP = American Academy of Pediatrics; ACIP = Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; ACOG = American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; GSK = GlaxoSmithKline; IM = intramuscular; MDV = multidose vial; N/A = not available; PFS = pre-filled syringe; WHO = World Health Organization

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Footnotes:

- a. Information is from product labeling, unless otherwise noted: Fluvad (July 2026); Fluarix (July 2026); Flucelvax (July 2026); FluLaval (July 2026); Fluzone (July 2026); Fluzone High-Dose Northern Hemisphere (July 2026); Flublok Trivalent (July 2026); FluMist (July 2026); mFlusiva (August 2026).
- b. Pricing based on one dose at wholesale acquisition cost (WAC). Medication pricing by Elsevier, accessed July 2026.
- 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/>).

References:

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2. CDC. ACIP recommendations. Aug 8, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/acip/vaccine-recommendations/index.html>. (Accessed July 28, 2025).
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6. DiazGranados CA, Dunning AJ, Kimmel M, et al. Efficacy of high-dose versus standard-dose influenza vaccine in older adults. N Engl J Med. 2014 Aug 14;371(7):635-45.
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8. ACOG. Vaccine Safety During Pregnancy. <https://www.acog.org/womens-health/faqs/vaccine-safety-during-pregnancy>. (Accessed July 28, 2026).
9. AstraZeneca. FluMist. Frequently Asked Questions. <https://www.flumist.com/faqs>. (Accessed July 28, 2026).
10. CDC. ACIP Recommendations Summary. June 10, 2026. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/hcp/vax-summary/acip-recommendations.html>. (accessed July 31, 2026)

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