

4. Which influenza vaccine should individuals ≥65 years of age receive?

Do not delay vaccination to wait for a particular product. Both QIV and high-dose TIV protect against the flu, and the most important thing is for older adults to be vaccinated.

For individual-level decision making, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) in Canada states that when available, high-dose TIV should be used over standard-dose TIV, given the burden of influenza A(H3N2) disease and the good evidence of better protection compared to standard-dose TIV in adults 65 years of age and older.

Flu vaccine decision making should be discussed with a health care provider. In speaking with a health care provider, the following should be considered for your discussion:

- There is insufficient evidence to recommend the use of high-dose TIV over standard-dose QIV.
- However, given the increased burden of disease associated with influenza A(H3N2) in older adults, better protection against influenza A(H3N2) may be more important than better protection against influenza B, especially in those with multiple co-morbid conditions and compromised health status.

For more information on high-dose TIV and QIV formulations, please refer to the following:

- *Canadian Immunization Guide Chapter on Influenza and Statement on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2020-2021* available at: www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/vaccines-immunization/canadian-immunization-guide-statement-seasonal-influenza-vaccine-2020-2021.html and;
- Public Health Ontario's *Influenza Vaccines for the 2020-2021 Influenza Season* available at: www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/influenza.

5. How many doses of the influenza vaccine are needed to provide protection?

One dose of the influenza vaccine is needed to provide protection each year (each influenza season).

6. Who can administer the influenza vaccine?

Individuals who can administer the influenza vaccine include:

1. Regulated health professionals who are authorized under the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* to administer vaccines.
 - Note: trained pharmacists may only administer publicly funded influenza vaccine to individuals 5 years of age and older.