

Influenza Prevention in Children

Influenza (flu) is a serious cause of illness in children.



Children 5 years of age and younger are at high risk of influenza-associated complications and hospitalization.

Influenza is more severe in children under 2 years of age and in children with chronic health conditions such as heart, lung, or neurological problems.



Does your child need 2 doses?

Children between 6 months and 9 years of age who are immunized for the first time need 2 doses to be fully protected.



Annual immunization is an effective and safe way to lower your child's influenza risk.

Talk to your doctor, pediatrician, nurse, pharmacist or local public health office about immunizing your child against influenza.



References:

Schanzer DL, Langley JM, Tam TW. Hospitalization Attributable to Influenza and Other Viral Respiratory Illnesses in Canadian Children. *Journal of Pediatric Infectious Diseases*. 2006; 25(9): p795-800.

Moore DL, Vaudry W, Scheifele DW, et al. Surveillance for Influenza Admissions Among Children Hospitalized in Canadian Immunization Monitoring Program Active Centers. *Pediatrics*. 2006; 118(3): p e610-9.

National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI). Statement on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2023-2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/vaccines-immunization/national-advisory-committee-immunization-statement-seasonal-influenza-vaccine-2023-2024.html>