FAQ'S

COVID-19 and the Flu

CAN I HAVE THE FLU AND COVID-19 AT THE SAME TIME?

Yes. It is possible to have the flu and other illnesses like COVID-19 at the same time. Health experts are still studying how common this can be.

Some symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, making it hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. Diagnostic testing can help determine if you are sick with flu or COVID-19.

IS COVID-19 MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE FLU?

Flu and COVID-19 can both result in serious illness, including illness resulting in hospitalization or death. While there is still much to learn about COVID-19, at this time, it does seem as if COVID-19 is more deadly than seasonal influenza; however, it is too early to draw any conclusions from the current data. This may change as we learn more about the number of people who are infected who have mild illnesses.

WILL A FLU VACCINE PROTECT ME AGAINST COVID-19?

Getting a flu vaccine will not protect against COVID-19, however flu vaccines have been shown to reduce the risk of flu illness, hospitalization and death. Getting a flu vaccine this fall will be more important than ever, not only to reduce your risk from flu but also to help conserve potentially scarce health care resources.

SHOULD A FLU VACCINE BE GIVEN TO SOMEONE WITH SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID-19?

No. Vaccination should be postponed for people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, regardless of whether they have symptoms, until they have met the criteria to discontinue their isolation.

WHO SHOULD GET THEIR FLU VACCINE DURING COVID-19?

- Generally, everyone 6 months of age and older

- Essential workers (healthcare personal and other critical infrastructure workforce)

- People at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (adults aged 65+ and/or with underlying medical conditions)

- People at increased risk for serious influenza complications (infants and young children, pregnant women, adults aged 65+)

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR FLU VACCINES TO BE GIVEN DURING COVID-19?

For the upcoming flu season, flu vaccination will be very important to reduce flu because it can help reduce the overall impact of respiratory illnesses on the population and thus lessen the resulting burden on the healthcare system during the COVID-19 pandemic.

targetcare