



Memorandum

TO: Directors, Health Service Regions
Immunization Program Managers, Health Service Regions
Directors, Local Health Departments
Immunization Program Managers, Local Health Departments

FROM: Karen Hess, Manager
Vaccine Services Group

THRU: Jack Sims, Manager
Immunization Branch *Jack C. Sims*

DATE: August 18, 2011

SUBJECT: Texas Vaccines for Children Program: 2011-2012 Influenza Vaccine

Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) seasonal influenza vaccine orders were placed earlier this year, and should begin shipping to providers as vaccines become available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Although the vaccine composition remains unchanged from last season, the CDC is recommending that everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated against the flu as soon as 2011-2012 influenza vaccines become available, even if they were vaccinated last season. An individual's immune protection from vaccination declines over time and annual vaccination is needed for optimal protection.

TVFC influenza vaccine is reserved for children 6 months to 18 years of age as indicated below:

TVFC Children Eligible for Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine (TIV)

- All children aged 6 months through 18 years.

TVFC Children Eligible for Live, Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)

- All healthy children and adolescents (those who do not have an underlying medical condition that predisposes them to flu complications) aged 2 years through 18 years.

The 2011-2012 trivalent vaccines will contain A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like, A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2)-like, and B/Brisbane/60/2008-like antigens. The influenza A (H1N1) vaccine virus is derived from a 2009 pandemic influenza A (H1N1) virus. The duration of influenza seasons can vary, and influenza may not begin to appear in certain communities until as late as February or March. For this reason, providers should continue to vaccinate throughout the influenza season.

Changes from last year's recommendations include:

- Children 6 months through 8 years who received one dose of seasonal influenza vaccine last season will now need only one dose this season, rather than two doses because the 2011-2012 vaccine strains are unchanged from the 2010-2011 season.
- Children younger than 9 years who did not receive at least one dose of the 2010-2011 vaccine, or for whom it is not certain whether the 2010-2011 seasonal vaccine was received, should receive two doses of the 2011-2012 seasonal influenza, separated by at least 4 weeks, regardless of their previous influenza vaccination history (see Figure 1 below).
- Guidance for vaccinating individuals with an egg allergy has been updated (see Figure 2).

For complete information on the recommendations including the above changes visit the MMWR website at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm60e0818.pdf>.

By federal law, an appropriate Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) must be given to all patients, or their parent or legal representative when receiving an influenza vaccine. Influenza VISs for 2011-12 are expected to become available in late August. VISs will not be included with influenza vaccine shipments, and must be ordered by providers. There are two VISs, one for TIV (Stock # C-93 or Spanish C-93A) and the LAIV (Stock # C-87 or Spanish C-87A) including addenda. To order influenza VISs free of charge directly from the Immunization Branch, please visit <https://secure.immunizetexasorderform.com/default.asp>. If you do not have access to the web, or if you have questions or concerns regarding ordering immunization literature or forms call Jack Shaw at 1-800-252-9152, extension 6479.

VISs without the Texas Addendum are available now online at the following CDC websites:

TIV: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-flu.pdf>

LAIV: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-flulive.pdf>

FIGURE 1. Influenza vaccine dosing algorithm for children aged 6 months through 8 years
--- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2011-2012 influenza season

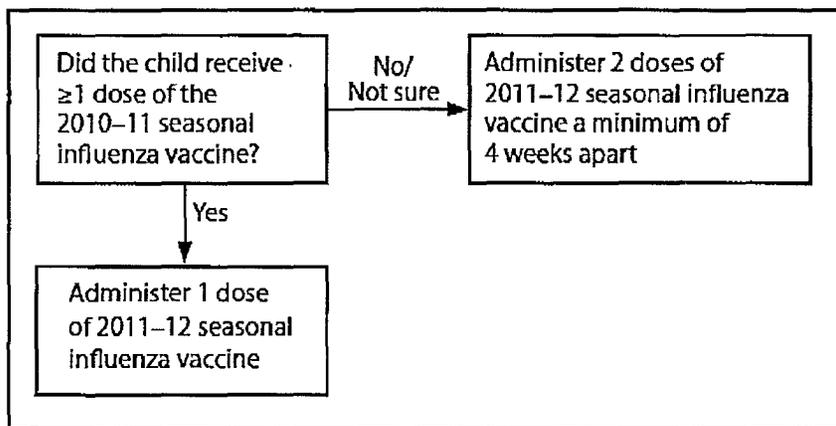
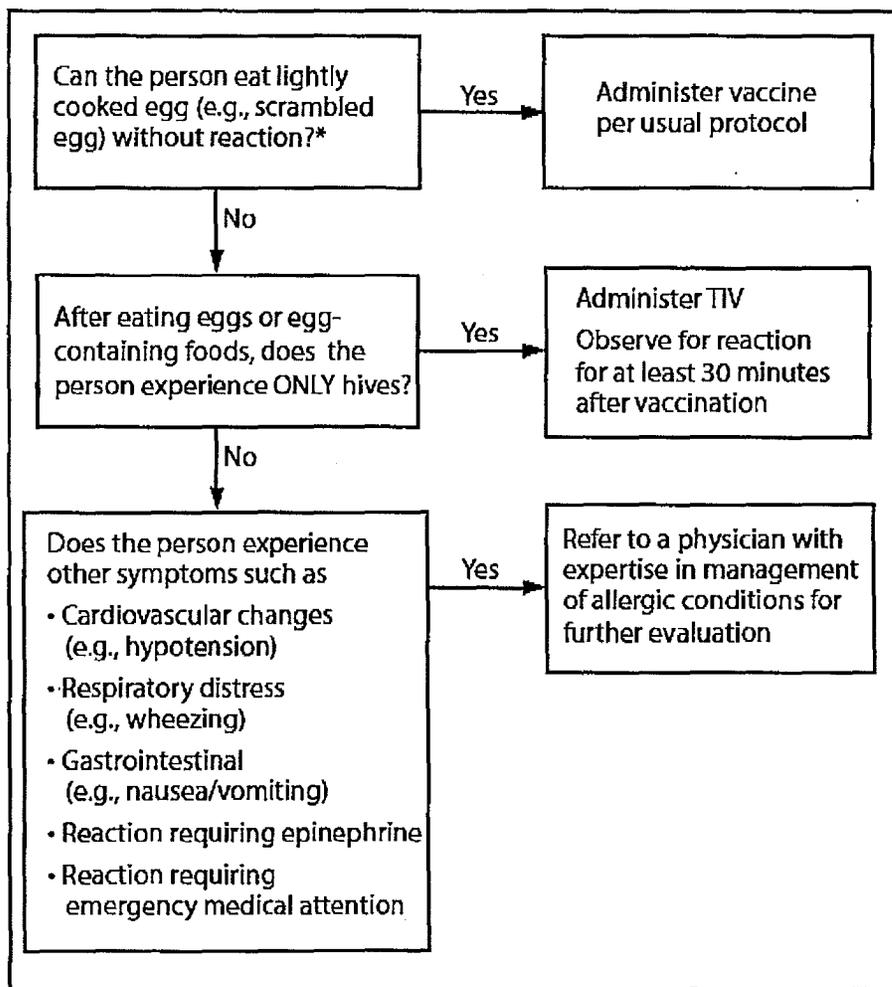


FIGURE 2. Recommendations regarding influenza vaccination for persons who report allergy to eggs --- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2011-2012 influenza season



If you have questions regarding the seasonal influenza vaccine, please call your local health department, health service region, or TVFC Consultant.