Flu, COVID-19 & RSV Shots Available Fall 2023



Health experts anticipate another wave of respiratory viral infections this fall, namely from the flu, coronavirus (COVID-19) and respiratory syntactical virus (RSV). Vaccines for all three viruses will be available for the first time in the fall.

"Getting vaccinated is one of the safest ways for you to protect your health."

- CDC



Who Should Get Vaccinated?

Health officials suggest that everyone eligible should at least receive the flu and COVID-19 shots, following recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Individuals aged 65 and older are encouraged to talk with their doctors about potentially receiving the RSV vaccine, which is new. Some other RSV-preventive products are available for babies and young children but not a vaccine. Experts note that getting the vaccines at the end of summer could help ward off respiratory illness when risks heighten in the fall. Vaccinations have been shown to reduce hospitalizations and death and may be particularly beneficial for those with compromised health.

Do I Need Another COVID-19 Shot?

The CDC recommends that <u>all eligible individuals receive a COVID-19 shot</u> this fall, even if they got the original vaccination in the past.

Can I Get All the Vaccines at Once?

Last year, many individuals received a COVID-19 and flu shot simultaneously to seemingly good effect; however, health experts will continue reviewing cases and compiling data to illuminate any potential safety concerns. The CDC says it's OK to get the RSV vaccination at the same time as the other two, but there is still little data regarding the safety and efficacy of doing so. Eligible individuals should discuss any vaccination regimen with their doctor prior to getting the shots.

Where Can I Learn More?

The CDC <u>recently announced</u> updated COVID-19 vaccination guidance for the 2023 season, following vaccine approval from the Food and Drug Administration. Read more about the recommendations <u>here</u>. Individuals should direct any vaccination questions or concerns to their primary care physicians.