

2 Super(ior) Flu Shots for Seniors available this year

As the immune system ages, it responds less well to vaccines of all kinds, including flu vaccines. Fluzone® High-Dose and Flublok® egg-free recombinant flu vaccine are the only 2 vaccines proven to be more effective at preventing flu in seniors over 50 when tested against a regular strength flu shot.

Fluzone® High-Dose is especially formulated for persons 65 years and older. We have offered this high dose vaccine to seniors with good results since it first became available in 2010.

Fluzone® High-Dose contains 4 times the active ingredients of a regular 3-strain seasonal flu shot. Numerous studies have shown that Fluzone® High-Dose decreases the risk of flu and its complications in persons 65 years and older. It is therefore my preferred flu vaccine for seniors over 65. **Fluzone® High-Dose is made using eggs but is latex free and preservative free.**

Flublok® Quadrivalent which is available for the first time this flu season is a new high potency flu shot **FDA-approved for adults 18 year and older. Flublok® is a triple-strength flu shot containing 3 times the active ingredients found in a regular 4-strain flu shot.** Research has shown Flublok® to be more protective against flu in adults over 50 when compared to a regular 4-strain flu shot. For those with allergies, **Flublok® also contains no egg proteins, no gelatin, no antibiotics, no latex and no preservatives.**

I took Flublok® and recommend it for any adult under 65 who wants better flu protection. It is especially important to consider Flublok® instead of a regular strength flu shot if you are under 65 and have a chronic illness like diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, COPD or asthma which can weaken your resistance against flu.

Either Fluzone® High-Dose or Flublok® are good options if you are over 65, but Fluzone® High-Dose has been more extensively studied in this age group. **For those who have troublesome side effects from Fluzone® High-Dose or who prefer not to take a stronger flu shot, I recommend a regular 4-strain flu shot.** If you have had a life-threatening reaction to a flu shot, then you should not take any flu shot.

Fluzone® High-Dose, Flublok® and regular strength flu shots are covered in full by Medicare B and most commercial insurance plans.

Flublok[®] QUADRIVALENT Influenza Vaccine

FLUBLOK QUADRIVALENT VACCINE: PROVEN TO PREVENT MORE CASES OF INFLUENZA IN ADULTS 50+^{1,2}

Compared with a standard-dose quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine¹

According to a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in June 2017,

FLUBLOK QUADRIVALENT VACCINE PROVIDED:

30% BETTER PROTECTION
from influenza disease

PRIMARY ENDPOINT:
rtPCR^a-confirmed, protocol-
defined, influenza-like illness
due to any influenza virus
type or subtype^{1,2}

43% BETTER PROTECTION
from influenza disease

SECONDARY ENDPOINT:
Culture-confirmed, protocol-
defined, influenza-like illness
due to any influenza virus
type or subtype^{1,2}

THE BENEFITS OF FLUBLOK QUADRIVALENT VACCINE

- Contains 3x the HA^b of standard-dose quadrivalent influenza vaccine³
- Comparable safety profile to a standard-dose quadrivalent influenza vaccine²
- Recombinant hemagglutinin vaccine designed to replicate the HA exactly⁴
- Approved for patients 18 years of age and older¹

CHOOSE FLUBLOK QUADRIVALENT VACCINE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR PATIENTS 50+

^artPCR = Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction.

^bHA = Hemagglutinin antigen.

Please [click here](#) to see Important Safety Information.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR FLUBLOK QUADRIVALENT VACCINE

Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine should not be administered to anyone who has had a severe allergic reaction (eg, anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of the vaccine or any component of the vaccine.

If Guillain-Barré syndrome has occurred within 6 weeks following previous influenza vaccination, the decision to give Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine should be based on careful consideration of the potential benefits and risks.

The most common local adverse reactions to Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine include tenderness and pain at the injection site. The most common systemic reactions include headache, fatigue, myalgia, and arthralgia. Other adverse reactions may occur. Vaccination with Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine may not protect all individuals.

INDICATION FOR FLUBLOK QUADRIVALENT VACCINE

Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine is indicated for active immunization against disease caused by influenza A subtype viruses and type B viruses contained in the vaccine. Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine is approved for use in persons 18 years of age and older.

Before administration, please see the full Prescribing Information for Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine.

Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine is manufactured by Protein Sciences Corporation, a Sanofi company, and distributed by Sanofi Pasteur Inc. Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine (CPT[®] code 90682) is a covered benefit under Medicare Part B.

[®]CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.

References: **1.** Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine [Prescribing Information]. Meriden, CT: Protein Sciences Corporation. **2.** Dunkle LM, Izikson R, Patriarca P, et al. Efficacy of recombinant influenza vaccine in adults 50 years of age or older. *N Engl J Med.* 2017;376:2427-2436. **3.** Flublok [press release]. Meriden, CT: Protein Sciences Corporation; October 17, 2017. <http://www.proteinsciences.com/FVAC.htm>. Accessed January 26, 2018. **4.** Dunkle LM, Izikson R, Post P, Cox MMJ. Introducing modern recombinant technology to the realm of seasonal influenza vaccine: Flublok[®] for prevention of influenza in adults. *EC Microbiol.* 2015;2:224-234.

Flublok[®]
QUADRIVALENT
Influenza Vaccine