

BOERNE/BULVERDE URGENT CARE FLU VACCINE INFORMATION

The Disease

Influenza (flu) is a respiratory disease caused by influenza virus infection. The types or strains of influenza virus causing illness may change from year to year, or even within the same year. People who get the flu may have fever, chills, headache, dry cough and muscle aches and may be sick for several days to a week or more. Most people recover completely. However, for some people, flu may be especially severe and pneumonia or other complications including death may develop.

Flu Vaccine

The regular flu vaccine contains killed influenza virus of the types selected by US Public Health Service and the Center for Biologics Evaluation & Research of the US Food and Drug Administration. The types of strains of virus included are those which have most recently been causing influenza. The vaccine will **not** give you the flu because it is a killed virus vaccine.

Risks & Possible Side Effects

Influenza vaccine generally causes only mild side effects that occur at low frequency. Most commonly, the reactions may be a sore or tender arm at the injection site or possible chills, fever, headache or muscle aches. These side effects usually last 24-48 hours. Most people who receive the vaccine have none or only mild reaction. There is a possibility, as with any vaccine or drug, which an allergic reaction or other serious reaction or even death could occur. Moreover, untoward medical events completely unrelated to vaccine administration may occur coincidentally in the aftermath period following vaccination.

SPECIAL NOTICE – Check with the physician if vaccination is being considered for:

1. People allergic to eggs, chicken or chicken feathers
2. People who have an active neurological disease
3. People with a fever, acute respiratory or other active infectious disease
4. People sensitive to thimersol (Merthiolate)
5. People who have received another type of vaccine during the past 14 days
6. Children under 3 years of age
7. Pregnant women

If you have any questions, please ask now or check with a physician or your health department before receiving the vaccine. If you experience any significant reactions, see your physician.

IN THE RARE CASE OF AN ALLERGIC REACTION, WE REQUEST THAT YOU WAIT HERE FOR 20 MINUTES AFTER THE FLU SHOT HAS BEEN GIVEN.