

IT'S FLU AND COVID-19 VACCINE TIME!



**PLEASE REVIEW THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION
FOR ALL THE INFO YOU
NEED TO KNOW**

FLU VACCINE

MY CHILD IS LESS THAN 9 YEARS OF AGE. DOES HE NEED A BOOSTER DOSE OR A SECOND DOSE OF THE FLU VACCINE THIS YEAR?

If your child is **less than 9 years** of age and has received at least **TWO DOSES** of Flu vaccine EVER before July 1, 2024, he only **needs ONE dose** of the 2024-25 Flu vaccine. The past doses do not need to have been received during the same or consecutive seasons.

If your child is **less than 9 years** of age and has only received **ONE** or **NO DOSES** of the Flu vaccine before July 1, 2024, he needs to receive **TWO doses** of the flu vaccine, **given at least 4 weeks apart**.

DO YOU HAVE FLUMIST VACCINES THIS YEAR?

Yes, we do have Flumist vaccine, the nasal form of the Flu vaccine. Flumist can only be given to children **2 years of age and older who do not have a history of asthma, wheezing within the past 12 months, or other chronic medical problems**. It is a live virus, so it cannot be given if your child has received MMR or Varivax vaccine within the past 4 weeks. Your child **MUST** be able to sniff in the vaccine (and **NOT** blow it out), so make sure your child can “smell the flowers” if signing up for Flumist!

MY CHILD IS ALLERGIC TO EGGS. CAN HE STILL GET THE FLU VACCINE?

Yes, for most children with an egg allergy, it is okay to receive either form of the Flu vaccine. If your child's allergic reaction to eggs was more than just hives, then please talk to your child's doctor first, as they may want to schedule the flu vaccine to be given during regular office hours.

COVID-19 VACCINE

DOES PIEDMONT PEDIATRICS HAVE THE NEW, UPDATED 2024-25 COVID-19 VACCINES IN THE OFFICE?

Yes. We have received a supply of the Pfizer updated COVID-19 vaccine for children **6 months of age and older**.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

MY CHILD IS 5 YEARS OR OLDER:

Your child will get **ONE** 2024-25 COVID-19 vaccine at least 8 weeks after the last dose of any previous COVID-19 vaccine. It does not matter if the previous vaccine was the original COVID-19 vaccine or a Bivalent booster, your child will only get **ONE** 2024-25 vaccine.

MY CHILD IS 6 MONTHS - 4 YEARS OLD:

If your child has NEVER received a COVID-19 Vaccine, your child will receive **THREE** of the Pfizer 2024-25 vaccines. **Dose 2** is *at least 3 weeks after* Dose 1, and **Dose 3** is *at least 8 weeks after* Dose 2.

If your child has had PREVIOUS COVID-19 Doses:

- **If your child received only 1 previous dose of the Pfizer vaccine**, your child should receive **Dose 2** with the Pfizer 2024-25 vaccine *at least 3 weeks after the first dose*, and **Dose 3** *at least 8 weeks after* Dose 2.
- **If your child received 2 previous doses of the Pfizer vaccine**, your child should receive **Dose 3** *at least 8 weeks after* Dose 2.
- **If your child received 3 or more previous doses of the Pfizer vaccine**, your child should receive **ONE dose** of the Pfizer 2024-25 vaccine *at least 8 weeks after the last dose*.

CAN YOU MIX COVID-19 VACCINES BRANDS BETWEEN PFIZER AND MODERNA?

For children **5 years of age and older**, you can mix the two brands. For example, if your child previously received Moderna vaccines, your child could receive the Pfizer 2024-25 vaccine.

For children **under 5 years of age**, you **CAN NOT** mix the brands. If your child received the Pfizer vaccine previously, your child should continue with the Pfizer 2024-25 vaccine.

MY CHILD HAD COVID-19 INFECTION. DOES HE STILL NEED TO GET THE UPDATED VACCINE?

If your child recently had COVID-19 infection, you can consider delaying the vaccine by 3-4 months. However, you can consider giving the vaccine sooner based on your child's personal risk of severe disease or risk of disease on a family member/close contact.

GETTING THE VACCINE

ONE OF MY CHILDREN IS COMING TO THE OFFICE FOR AN APPOINTMENT. MAY I BRING MY OTHER CHILDREN WITH ME TO GET THEIR FLU AND/OR COVID VACCINE?

Yes. If your other children are not ill, you can bring the others with you. **PLEASE** tell the front desk staff at check-in that you are getting flu and/or COVID vaccines for the patient's siblings.

MY CHILD IS SCHEDULED FOR A PHYSICAL SOON. CAN MY CHILD GET THE FLU AND/OR COVID-19 VACCINE THEN?

Yes. We can administer the Flu and COVID-19 vaccines to your child during most check-ups and some sick visits. It is okay to give both Flu and COVID-19 vaccines on the same day and to receive either vaccine at the same visit as any routine childhood immunizations. There is no wait time required between receiving either vaccine (or any other vaccine).

I SIGNED UP FOR ONE OF THE VACCINE CLINICS, BUT THEN MY CHILD RECEIVED HIS FLU AND/OR COVID-19 VACCINE DURING OUR OFFICE APPT. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

If your child receives their vaccine in the office before your vaccine clinic appointment, please **CANCEL** your scheduled clinic time through the confirmation email you received when you signed up. This way, that time slot will be available for another patient to use.

MY CHILD IS A NEW PATIENT AT PIEDMONT PEDIATRICS, BUT HAS NOT HAD HIS FIRST APPOINTMENT THERE YET. CAN I STILL USE THE VACCINE CLINIC?

Unfortunately, all new patients **MUST** have had a visit with a doctor in the office before signing up for the Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics. If he is a new patient (**even if sibling has already been seen**), please call and make an appointment with one of our doctors for a new patient visit during regular office hours. The doctor will review your child's past medical history and then will give him the flu and/or COVID-19 vaccine during that visit.

CAN A PARENT GET THE FLU VACCINE AT THE OFFICE?

Yes, we offer the Flu Shot to our parents/legal guardians. As we do not file insurance for you, the vaccine is self-pay for \$45. If you wish to receive the vaccine while your child is in the office, please inform the front desk at check in so that you can fill out the necessary paperwork and make the payment.

MY CHILD CAN GET THE FLU VACCINE AT MY PHARMACY, BUT THEY REQUIRE AN ORDER FROM YOUR FOR THE VACCINE. WILL YOU CALL IN FLU VACCINES TO THE PHARMACY?

No. In general, our doctors **WILL NOT** call in Flu vaccine orders to pharmacies for our patients. We are not able to know if the pharmacy staff is equipped and trained to care for any adverse reactions that may occur.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Please note that we use **multi-dose vials** for our **injectable flu shots**. These vials contain a trace amount of thimerosal. Our doctors do not believe that there is any harm in this and recommend it without hesitation.
- Please remember that your child and family **should NOT** come to the vaccine clinic if your child **currently has a fever**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FLU AND COVID-19 VACCINES, INCLUDING THE VACCINE INFORMATION SHEETS (VIS) FROM THE CDC, CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

WE WILL, ALSO, POST ANY UPDATES OR CHANGES VIA OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES.