

## Which flu vaccine should children have?

There are two types of flu vaccine available for children in 2016/17 - the 'live' nasal spray vaccine and the inactivated injected flu vaccine. This chart indicates which vaccine children should get.

## What is the child's age?

## under 6 months of age

They are too young to have the flu vaccine (this is why it's important that expectant mothers have a flu vaccination 6 months to under 2 years

2, 3 or 4 years

5, 6 and 7 years rising 8

in school years 1, 2 and 3

8 to under 18 years

- they can have it at any stage of their pregnancy)

Are they in an at-risk group?

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Yes

No

Are there medical reasons why they can't have the nasal

spray vaccine?

No

They should

Are there have the nasal medical reasons spray vaccine why they can't have the nasal spray vaccine?

No

The child is not eligible for the flu vaccine

They should have the inactivated injected flu vaccine. Children who have never had a flu vaccination will need two doses four weeks apart

The child is not eligible for the flu vaccine

Are there medical reasons why they can't have the nasal spray vaccine?

They should have the nasal spray vaccine

No

They should have the nasal spray vaccine. At-risk children aged up to 9 years who have never had a flu vaccination will need two doses four weeks apart

They should have the inactivated injected flu vaccine. Children who have never had a flu vaccination will need two doses four weeks apart

- Those aged two, three or four years old on 31 August 2016 (but not five years) are eligible for flu vaccination.
- Children of school years 1, 2 and 3 age (i.e. those aged five, six and seven on 31 August 2016, rising to eight years old) are eligible for flu vaccination.
- At-risk children include those who have a long-term health conditions such as asthma, and other respiratory diseases, liver, kidney and neurological conditions including learning disabilities, even if well managed.
- The nasal spray vaccine is a 'live' vaccine but the viruses in it have been weakened so they can not cause flu. It is not suitable for all children, including those who are severely asthmatic or immunocompromised, or are on salicylate therapy. Children with egg allergy can have the nasal vaccine. However, parents whose children have a history of severe egg allergy with anaphylaxis should seek specialist advice. There is no suitable alternative flu vaccine available for otherwise healthy children.

Yes

• The vaccine will continue to be offered to all primary school-aged children in former pilot areas.

