

INTRODUCING...A New FLU SHOT that is virtually PAIN-FREE!

by Kaye Ivanoff, R.N. SHOTS, etc.

Sanofi Pasteur, the world's leading manufacturer of vaccines, has introduced a new flu shot with a needle so small you can barely see it! That's GREAT news for all of the "needle phobic" people of all ages who can't bear to bare their arms for this very important vaccination each year!

The same three strains of influenza virus that are included in the other preparations of flu vaccine are the ones found in this new delivery system. The syringe uses a microneedle that penetrates just under the skin or epidermis. This intradermal layer of skin is rich in "dendritic" cells which capture the vaccine and activate an immune response that is more reliable than when given in the muscle. Because of differences in people's weight and muscle mass, it is sometimes difficult to be certain that the vaccine was delivered in the correct method when using a regular syringe and needle. This type of system eliminates the guesswork and promises a more robust immune response in those who receive it.

This new intradermal method uses a needle that is 90% smaller, also reducing the likelihood of damage to nerves and blood vessels, thus decreasing the amount of pain upon injection. Some people have complained that because the vaccine is being injected closer to the skin surface there is more incidence of post injection redness and swelling. These reactions were reported to be more frequent, but only of mild to moderate intensity and lasting just a few days.

Although the intradermal flu vaccine is indicated for persons 18 through 64 years of age, it should not be administered to anyone who has had a severe allergic reaction to eggs, any vaccine component or any previous flu vaccine or if the individual has developed Guillain-Barre syndrome within 6 weeks of receiving any prior flu vaccine.

For more information about Fluzone Intradermal Influenza Virus Vaccine, please visit http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/qa_intradermal-vaccine.htm

Fluzone Intradermal is available in very limited supplies this introductory year. Please call SHOTS, etc. at 615-525-7618 to reserve your dose while supplies last!

This article was written by Kaye Ivanoff, RN of SHOTS, etc., a Nashville-based provider of all vaccinations needed by adolescents and adults to stay healthy for work or school requirements, world travel and everyday life. For more information about services available for companies and individuals, please call 615-469-7413 or visit www.SHOTSetc.com. SHOTS, etc. is located at 7648 Hwy 70 So. Ste 15, Nashville, TN 37221.

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