

# Influenza is a serious disease...

## Make sure your child is protected!

### What is influenza?

Influenza (flu) is a serious disease caused by a virus.

Influenza can make your child feel miserable. Fever, cough, shaking chills, body aches, and extreme weakness are common symptoms.



### How do you catch influenza?

Your child can catch influenza from people who cough, sneeze, or even just talk around him or her. It is very contagious.

### Is influenza serious?

Yes. Tragically, every year infants, children, teens, and adults die from influenza.

Influenza is dangerous for children as well as for people of all ages. Children younger than 2 years of age are at particularly high risk for hospitalization due to complications of influenza.

Influenza is not only serious for your child, but it can be serious for others, such as babies and grandparents, if your child passes the virus on to them.

Ask your child's healthcare provider if your child is up to date for all vaccines!

### Is my child at risk?

Yes. Anyone can become seriously sick from influenza – even healthy children.

### How can I protect my child from influenza?

Vaccination is the best way to protect your child from getting influenza.

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get vaccinated against influenza every year.

Vaccination not only protects people who get immunized, it also protects others who are around them.



▶ For more information, visit [www.vaccineinformation.org](http://www.vaccineinformation.org)

For other vaccine handouts in this series, visit [www.immunize.org/vaccine-summaries](http://www.immunize.org/vaccine-summaries)

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