

Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation

Advice on influenza vaccines for 2019/20

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October 2018

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Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation

Advice on influenza vaccines for 2019/20

Prepared by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation scientific secretariat

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JCVI advice on influenza vaccines for the 2019/2020 influenza season

JCVI has reviewed the latest evidence on influenza vaccines. The advice below represents the JCVI's scientific advice on the use of influenza vaccines in the UK for the 2019/20 influenza season. This advice includes vaccines anticipated for licensure during the ordering window for the 2019/20 influenza season. Vaccines should only be considered for use in the relevant populations once licensed.

Adults 65 years of age and over

For vaccination of those aged 65 years and over JCVI advises the use of any one of the following vaccines:

- Adjuvanted trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (aTIV)
- High-dose trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (TIV-HD)
- Quadrivalent influenza cell culture vaccine (QIVc)

These vaccines are considered equally suitable for use in those aged 65 years and over, and are preferable to standard egg based inactivated trivalent and quadrivalent vaccines (TIVe/QIVe).

At-risk adults (including pregnant women) and children (for whom there are contraindications for use of LAIV)

For vaccination of those aged less than 65 years of age JCVI advises the use of any one of the following vaccines:

- Quadrivalent influenza cell culture vaccine (QIVc)
- Quadrivalent egg based inactivated vaccine (QIVe)

These vaccines are considered equally suitable for use in those less than 65 years of age and in an at-risk group (subject to licensed age indications)¹. These vaccines are preferable to standard egg based inactivated trivalent vaccines (TIVe).

¹ The Committee agreed that there was a potential theoretical advantage to using cell derived influenza vaccines compared with egg derived influenza vaccines in those less than 65 years, due to egg adaption, but the current evidence was not of sufficient quality, was limited to only one season and not sufficiently robust to express a preference at this time.

Background

The considerations of JCVI with regards to use of these vaccines are published in the minutes of JCVI and the Influenza sub-committee.

The advice of JCVI is based on discussions at JCVI and the Influenza sub-committee:

- adjuvanted influenza vaccines were discussed in the June and October 2017 JCVI meetings;
- high dose influenza vaccines were discussed in the June 2018 JCVI meeting and the September 2018 Influenza sub-committee; and
- cell culture vaccines were discussed in the September 2018 Influenza sub-committee meeting and October 2018 JCVI meeting.

The minutes JCVI and sub-committee meetings are available through the JCVI webpage at <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation>.

The minutes of the September 2018 Influenza sub-committee meeting and October 2018 JCVI meeting will become available through the JCVI webpage on or before 14 November 2018