



Agriflu[®] or Vaxigrip[®] Vaccine

(Influenza Virus Vaccine)

Agriflu[®] and Vaxigrip[®] are vaccines that protect against influenza

- Each vaccine is equally effective, and protects against the three strains of influenza that are most likely to be circulating each flu season. Since the strains that circulate vary from year to year, the strains contained in the vaccines also vary from year to year
- Given to anyone over 6 months of age
- Children under 9 years of age who are receiving the influenza vaccine for the first time require two doses of vaccine, at least one month apart
- Injected in the thigh of children under 12 months, and into the upper arm of people older than 12 months

Side effects may include:

- Redness, swelling, discomfort at the injection site
- Headache, muscle aches, chills, fever, a feeling of being unwell

Severe side effects are rare.

People should delay or avoid this immunization if they:

- Have a fever or are fighting a recent infection
- Have an allergy to neomycin, kanamycin, thimerosal, eggs, egg products, chicken meat, cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB), or formaldehyde
- Have an active neurological disorder or problems with the immune system
- Are taking these medications: Warfarin (Coumadin[®]), Theophylline, or Phenytoin (Dilantin[®])
- Are under 6 months of age

Influenza (the flu)

- Is a highly contagious serious respiratory infection that is much worse than a cold
- Can cause symptoms such as cough, fever, chills, sore throat, headache, muscle aches and fatigue
- Can result in more serious complications including pneumonia and even death
- Is especially dangerous for babies, young children, the elderly, and people with serious health problems and may result in hospitalization
- Spreads from person to person through the air by coughing and sneezing, or by touching your eyes, nose or mouth following contact with unwashed hands or contaminated surfaces and objects

For further information, please call:
York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653
TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca