



Magruder Hospital offers two different vaccines each year. The standard influenza vaccine is a quadravalent, preservative-free injection. The High Dose influenza vaccine is also a quadravalent, preservative-free injection, but is used specifically for patients over the age of 65.

The Pharmacy at Magruder is open Monday - Friday from 9am to 6pm and Saturday/Sunday from 9am to 5pm.

MAGRUDER VACCINE NAME	TYPE OF VACCINE	RECOMMENDED AGES	PRESERVATIVES?
Fluarix Influenza	Inactivated, quadravalent	6 months and up	No
Fluzone/Fluad High Dose Influenza	Inactivated, quadravalent	65 and older	No

What does Quadravalent mean?

Quadravalent means there is protection against 4 different flu viruses.

Does the flu shot at Magruder contain preservatives?

The flu shots given at Magruder Hospital do not contain a preservative. This means each syringe is used once as a single dose, and there are no preservatives being injected.

What makes the High Dose flu vaccine different?

Vaccines that are high dose either contain an adjuvant (an ingredient added to a medication to create a stronger immune response) or contain more antigen, which is designed to build up additional protection against the virus. This vaccine is used for people above the age of 65, as they are at the highest risk for flu-related deaths and they have poorer immune responses to flu vaccines than those that are younger.

Will a flu vaccine protect me against COVID-19?

Getting a flu vaccine will not protect against COVID-19, however, flu vaccines have been shown to reduce the risk of flu illness, hospitalization and death. When you are protected from the flu, this will help conserve scarce health care resources, such as personal protection equipment (PPE).

Why do I need to get a flu shot every year?

Everyone age 6 months and older should be vaccinated against the flu every year during the fall or winter. The reason for a flu shot every year is because a person's immune protection declines over time so an annual shot is needed for the best protection. The viruses are also changing, so getting one each year helps protect you from new viruses.

Why is the flu vaccine different every year?

There are many different flu viruses and they are constantly changing. The composition of U.S. flu vaccines is reviewed annually and updated as needed to match circulating flu viruses. Flu vaccines protect against the three or four viruses (depending on the vaccine) that research suggests will be most common.

Is the flu shot safe if I have an allergy to eggs?

Magruder uses an egg-based flu vaccine. The CDC recommendations specify anyone with an egg allergy can receive this flu shot. Anyone with an egg allergy who has had a reaction other than hives should receive the flu shot in a medical facility. If you have had a severe reaction to the flu shot itself, you should not get another flu vaccine. For other specific egg-allergy information, please see the CDC guidelines at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/egg-allergies.htm>.

QUESTIONS? Follow up with your primary care provider.