

**Influenza Vaccination during Pregnancy**  
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Immune system changes during pregnancy put women at an increased risk of serious illness and complications if they contract influenza (1). These complications include preterm labor, preterm birth, and increased risk of dying (2). Prior to the H1N1 epidemic in 2009, the influenza vaccination rates for pregnant women were only 15% (1). During the 2009-2010 flu season, the vaccination rate increased to 50% (1). This rate has been sustained due to strong recommendations by healthcare providers and other advocates. Strides continue to be made toward achieving the Healthy People 2020 goal of vaccinating 80% of pregnant women (3).

The current CDC recommendations state that everyone 6 months of age and older - including pregnant women and women who are breastfeeding - receive the flu vaccine each year (2). It is recommended that pregnant women receive the vaccine early in the flu season (October – May (2)). They can receive the vaccine any time during pregnancy (2). The nasal mist is **not** recommended by the CDC during the 2017-18 season. (2).

**Codes:**

Vaccine CPT	Typical Diagnosis Code	Vaccine Administration		
		Patient is 0-18 Years <u>AND</u> Qualified HCP Counseling Occurs	Patient is 19+ Years Regardless of Qualified Counseling, or Patient of Any Age Without Qualified Counseling	Medicare Pateints
Caution! Choose the correct code based on exact vaccine administered. Consult your coding book and be cautious of trivalent vs. quadrivalent, dosage size, route of administration, standard vs. increased antigen, and manufacturing (egg, cell culture, recombinant DNA), etc. Also, note that Medicare's "Q Codes" are <u>only</u> used for standard-dose, trivalent influenza vaccines that contain preservative (multidose vial).	Z23	90460 - 1 Unit (All influenza vaccines are single-component vaccines)	90471 - 1 Unit <b>OR</b> 90472 - 1 Unit	<b>G0008</b> (Used for all Medicare pateints, regardless of age or vaccine administered. Traditional vaccine administration codes will be denied by Medicare when used for influnza vaccine, and only the vaccine product code will be reimbursed.)

**Resources:**

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccines and Immunizations Information Page, at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines>
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists immunization web site, at <http://www.immunizationforwomen.org>

3. Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices Recommendations, at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm>

**References:**

1. <http://www.acog.org/about-acog/news-room/news-releases/2014/all-pregnant-women-should-get-flu-vaccine>
2. <http://www.acog.org/resources-and-publications/patient-education-pamphlets/files/the-flu-vaccine-and-pregnancy>
3. <http://www.acog.org/resources-and-publications/committee-opinions/committee-on-abstetric-practice-and-immunization-expert-work-group/influenza-vaccination-during-pregnancy>