

**Guidance on Reducing Prevalence of Influenza with COVID-19
Pandemic**



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Effective Date: September
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Purpose	<p>To provide guidance to staff to reduce the spread of influenza and respiratory illness amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic by providing flu vaccination and enforcing universal facemask use in all areas for all staff, regardless of vaccination status for COVID-19 or influenza.</p> <p>Please note, all guidance is subject to change as additional information becomes available</p>	
Scope	NYC Health + Hospitals (hereafter, "System")	
Requirements	Operating Procedure 20-57 Reducing Prevalence of Influenza	
Definitions	Staff	<p>Staff, as hereinafter referred to in this guidance, shall include all people who work on behalf of the System at a System work location, including at Acute Care facilities, Community Care, Test & Trace, Gotham Health, Correctional Health Services, Post-Acute, Central Office, NYC Health + Hospitals/Family Court Mental Health Services, or Metro-Plus. Staff includes all employees, affiliates, temporary or agency staff, students, volunteers and vendor staff.</p>
Process	<p>Infection Prevention and <u>General Practices</u> during Vaccine Administration</p> <p>Staff should adhere to infection prevention and control procedures when administering influenza vaccine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a well-fitted facemask. During times of high COVID-19 community transmission, N95 respirator and eye protection is required. • Gloves are to be changed, in addition to performing hand hygiene, between each vaccine administration. • Follow Standard Precautions, and cleaning the environment between vaccine administration. • Ensure adherence to respiratory hygiene, cough etiquette, and hand hygiene. • Select a space large enough to ensure physical distancing in waiting lines or areas for vaccination, between vaccination stations, and in post-vaccination monitoring areas (as appropriate) <p>Vaccination Status and Mask Use</p> <p>Due to COVID-19 and current public health requirements, all staff, regardless of vaccination status for influenza, are to wear facemask at all times while on System property.</p>	

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Coadministration of Influenza Vaccines with COVID-19 Vaccines

During the 2022–23 influenza season, SARS-CoV-2 is expected to continue to circulate in the United States, and COVID-19 vaccinations are expected to continue. Coadministration of influenza vaccines with COVID-19 vaccines is permissible.

- Per Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), current guidance concerning administration of current U.S.-approved or -authorized COVID-19 vaccines indicates that these vaccines may be given with influenza vaccines.
- COVID-19 vaccines may be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines.
- Vaccines administered at the same visit should be given at different sites (separated by an inch or more, if possible).
- If COVID-19 vaccines are given with vaccines that might be more likely to cause a local reaction (e.g., high-dose or adjuvanted influenza vaccines), administer in separate limbs, if possible.

Documentation of Influenza Vaccination Status

- Influenza vaccinations will be offered to all staff at H+H facilities.
- Staff vaccinated at a non-System location must provide documentation to Occupational Health Services or the facility Flu Coordinator that includes, at a minimum, a signed immunization vaccination card or statement from the provider of the vaccine, giving the date of vaccination and the name, title and address of the person administering the vaccine, the vaccine lot number and manufacturer and site of injection administration.
- Documentation will be maintained in the H+H Employee Vaccination Registry (EVR) for all Staff.
- Every Influenza Season, vaccinated staff will be given a sticker identification to be placed on the Staff ID badge to indicate vaccination has been received.

Reference

[Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2022–23 Influenza Season | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)

[Routine and Influenza Immunization Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Interim Guidance | CDC](#)

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