

IMMUNIZATION

Injection Administration

For injection administration, there are 5 points to remember when giving a flu shot!



Pharmacists can provide influenza immunizations to those aged 5 and over

This includes pregnant women, seniors, immune-compromised patients, HIV patients, and other special populations.



Pharmacists can't immunize patients with a history of an anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose, omitting an egg allergy

The influenza vaccine should also not be given to those with a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome within 6 weeks of a previous influenza immunization.



Delay immunizing a patient if they have a moderate/severe acute illness or an evolving neurological disorder

Administration of the influenza vaccine is okay if the patient has a minor illness without fever, an egg allergy, a bleeding disorder, or is taking blood thinners.



Use a 1" needle for patients over 60kg and a 5/8" needle for those under 60kg

Inject the vaccine at a 90° angle into the deltoid muscle. Ensure that the injection site has been cleaned with alcohol and left to air dry for 10 seconds prior to administration.



After being immunized, a patient must wait in the pharmacy for at least 15 minutes for observation

If there's a reaction, the pharmacist must report it to the local public health unit via AEFI form.

If epinephrine was administered, refer the patient to the emergency department for follow-up, as some allergic reactions are biphasic.

