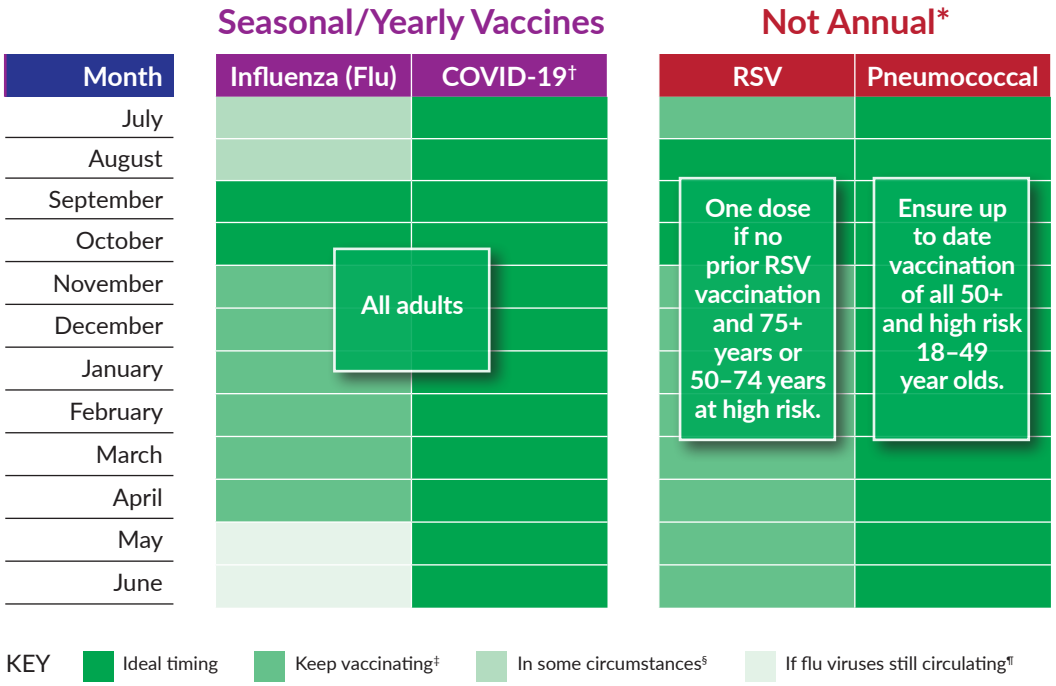
Fall 2025 Respiratory Season Vaccination for Adults 50 Years and Older

To be up to date for Fall Respiratory Season, CDC recommends annual influenza (flu) and seasonal COVID-19 vaccination. In addition, RSV vaccine is recommended for people 75 years and older or 50–74 years at increased risk of severe RSV. Because pneumococcal bacterial infections can follow viral infections, ensure your patients are up to date with pneumococcal vaccines, too.

Timing of Vaccines to Protect Adults 50 Years and Older From Seasonal Illnesses



KEY Ideal timing | Keep vaccinating‡ | In some circumstances§ | If flu viruses still circulating¶

*Unvaccinated people can get a single dose of RSV vaccine, and either a single dose of PCV20 or PCV21, or PCV15 followed by PPSV23. Other pneumococcal vaccination options depend on prior vaccinations.

†For COVID-19 vaccine, give prior year's vaccine during summer months until updated vaccine available in fall (give updated vaccine at least 8 weeks after prior COVID-19 vaccination in accordance with updated guidance).

‡Continue influenza vaccination throughout influenza season. Continue RSV vaccination of eligible adults.

§People who may not return for influenza vaccination during later months may be vaccinated in July/August.

¶Influenza vaccine can continue to be given in the spring if flu viruses are circulating and unexpired vaccine is available.

National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit

CDC recommendations for all vaccines

American College of Physicians Endorsed U.S. Vaccine Recommendations

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Endorsed U.S. Vaccine Recommendations

Coadminister Vaccines

To avoid missed opportunities, CDC recommends giving all needed vaccines at the same visit.[a] Counsel patients about potential side effects, including possible fatigue, soreness, and fever in the 2 days after vaccination. For adult patients who prefer receiving vaccines spread over more visits, schedule all needed vaccine appointments before they leave the clinic.

Vaccinate patients with recommended vaccines that you have in stock. Counsel and refer patients to other clinics or pharmacies that can administer vaccines that you do not stock.

General Information

- People 50-74 with high risk conditions and everyone ≥75 years are at risk of severe RSV and should get an RSV vaccine. People at highest risk of severe RSV disease include those with lung diseases; cardiovascular diseases; moderate or severe immune compromise; diabetes mellitus; neurologic or neuromuscular conditions; kidney disorders, liver disorders, and hematologic disorders; persons who are frail or who live in long-term care facilities; and persons with other conditions that the provider determines might increase the risk for severe RSV disease. See CDC's RSV vaccination guidelines for more details.[b]
- For all people 50 years and older and those 19–49 years with high-risk conditions, recommend pneumococcal vaccine if not previously vaccinated. High-risk factors for adults 19–49 years include alcoholism, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak, cochlear implant, heart disease, lung disease (including asthma), diabetes, immunocompromising conditions, and smoking. Check out CDC's PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor Mobile App.
- Coadministering RSV vaccine with one or more other vaccines at the same visit is acceptable, but might increase local or systemic reactogenicity.[a,b] Discuss concerns and preferences with patients regarding vaccine and coadministration.
- Updated influenza vaccines generally become available in late July/August and expire on June 30 of each year. Give prior year's vaccine during summer months until updated vaccine available in fall.

Billing and Coding

- Most private insurance cover all vaccines, but patients and providers should confirm their approved provider locations for vaccination.
- Medicare part B covers influenza, pneumococcal vaccine, hepatitis B and COVID-19 vaccines.
- Medicare part D covers RSV vaccines, and most other adult vaccines.
- Medicaid covers most adults for all approved vaccines beginning October 1, 2023.

[a]To avoid missed opportunities, all needed vaccines can be given at the same visit. https://www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p2030.pdf.

[b]Additional information on RSV vaccination can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults.html#vax-rec.