

Fight the flu!

Parents and kids, join us to help fight the flu. Influenza (the flu) is a serious illness you can get from anyone infected.

Prisma Health is helping protect you and your family with free flu shots throughout the Midlands. The flu shot is available for anyone six months and older. Flu shots will be administered by drive-through access with limited capacity to provide vaccines outside of the vehicle for children, if needed. Flu shots at Prisma Health, Nine Medical Park, will be administered outside the first floor lobby area every Wednesday and Thursday in October, 3–6 p.m. Please wear loose-fitting clothing that can easily roll up to assist with vaccines. Face masks or shields will be required,

Consent forms are required and available at each site. Children under the age of 16 require a parent/guardian signature. Flu shots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. See the reverse side for more information.

2021 Flu shot schedule		Location
Wednesday, Oct. 6–Thursday, Oct. 28, 3–6 p.m. <i>(Every Wednesday and Thursday)</i>		Prisma Health, Nine Medical Park Lobby 9 Medical Park Rd., Columbia, SC 29203
Saturday, Oct. 2	9 a.m.–1 p.m.	Lower Richland High School 2615 Lower Richland Blvd., Hopkins, SC 29061 Columbia International University 7435 Monticello Rd., Columbia, SC 29203
Saturday, Oct. 9	9 a.m.–1 p.m.	Dent Middle School 2721 Decker Blvd., Columbia, SC 29206 Sumter High School 2580 McCray’s Mill Rd., Sumter, SC 29154 (Enter through gate 1)
Saturday, Oct. 16	9 a.m.–1 p.m.	Dreher High School 3319 Millwood Ave., Columbia, SC 29205 Crossroads Intermediate School 6949 St. Andrews Rd., Columbia, SC 29212
Saturday, Oct. 23	9 a.m.–1 p.m.	St. Andrews Middle School 1231 Bluefield Dr., Columbia, SC 29210 Richland Two Institute of Innovation (R2I2) 765 Fashion Dr., Columbia, SC 29229
Saturday, Oct. 30	9 a.m.–1 p.m.	W.A. Perry Middle School (Challenger Parking Lot) 2600 Barhamville Rd., Columbia, SC 29204 Webber Elementary School 140 Webber School Rd., Eastover, SC 29044 Soda City Market 1300-1600 Main St., Columbia, SC 29201

For more information, visit PrismaHealth.org/FreeFluShots.

Q&A: Flu and COVID-19 vaccines

Can I get the flu and COVID-19 vaccines at the same time? **Yes.** No waiting period is needed. For the COVID-19 vaccine, it does not matter whether you mix the flu vaccine with the first, second or booster dose. *Note: If you are awaiting test results for COVID-19, do not get a flu vaccine.*

Will I have more or worse side effects if I get the flu and COVID-19 vaccines together or even within a week or two of each other? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), previous experience with other vaccines shows that side effects are generally similar when vaccines are given together (or closely together) versus given alone.

Will my antibody protection (immune response) be the same if I get both vaccines together? Per the CDC, experience with other vaccines shows that the immune response you develop is generally the same when vaccines are given together versus given alone.

What should medical professionals consider when deciding if both vaccines be given together?

- Are you at risk of becoming behind on these shots?
- Are you at a higher risk for contracting these diseases? For example, is there a current outbreak, does your job expose you to lots of people, or do you have a condition such as diabetes or asthma that may make you less able to ward off these diseases if unvaccinated?
- Have you had reactions to either of these vaccines in the past?

If I get both vaccines, will they be given in the same spot? **No.** They will NOT be given in the same spot. You will likely get both vaccines in the upper arm – at least an inch apart – or in different arms.

Will I be monitored after I get both vaccines? **Yes.** You will be asked to stay at the facility where you received the injection for at least 15 minutes. If you have had reactions to any shots before, you should stay for 30 minutes as an extra precaution.

Are the vaccines safe? **Yes.** Both have undergone careful testing and have been approved for use.

Can I receive these vaccines if I am pregnant or breastfeeding? **Yes,** but talk to your doctor about any concerns you may have.

Can I get the flu or COVID-19 just from receiving these vaccines? **No.** That is a myth.

Does the flu vaccine increase my risk of getting COVID-19 or vice versa? **No.** There is no evidence that getting one of these vaccines increases the risk of getting the other disease.

NOTE: Because flu and COVID-19 can have similar symptoms, it is possible to have both illnesses at once – a very serious situation – so getting both vaccines is more important than ever this year.