



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Oregon Department of Human Services

Aging and People with Disabilities

Population Health Improvement

PO Box 14530, Salem, OR 97309

APD.PopulationHealth@odhs.oregon.gov

Provider Alert – Vaccination information, 2023-24 Respiratory Season

Date: October 3, 2023

To: Adult Foster Home Providers

From: ODHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities,
Population Health Quality Improvement

Subject: **Preventing COVID, Influenza, and RSV**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccination as a safe and effective way to prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death related to influenza, COVID, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Please help improve safety and wellbeing in your adult foster home by encouraging residents and caregivers to receive CDC-recommended vaccines.

Why is this Important?

COVID, flu, and RSV have a larger negative impact among older adults and individuals with underlying health conditions:

- Approximately 70% of annual flu deaths occur in adults ages 65 and older.
- Every year, there are an estimated 6,000-10,000 deaths among adults ages 65 years and older due to RSV.
- According to the CDC, most COVID deaths occur in older adults and the risk of death increases with age.

Summary of Recommendations to Prevent COVID, influenza, and RSV

Below is a summary of current guidance from the CDC related to these three vaccine-preventable respiratory illnesses.

“Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe”
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Influenza

The CDC recommends that people ages 6 months and older receive a flu vaccine every year, ideally before the end of October.

Information about flu prevention and management for adults ages 65 and older can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/65over.htm>.

COVID-19

The CDC recommends that individuals 6 months of age and older receive an updated COVID vaccine in the fall of 2023.

Details regarding CDC COVID vaccine guidance can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2023/p0912-COVID-19-Vaccine.html>

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

In May 2023, the FDA approved two vaccines for RSV for adults ages 60 and older. The CDC recommends that individuals talk with a doctor to determine if the RSV vaccine should be administered.

Details regarding CDC RSV vaccine recommendations are available at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/hcp/older-adults.html#vax-rec>.

Help is Available

If you encounter barriers to vaccination or have questions about this information, APD’s Population Health team is holding virtual meetings for AFH providers on the following dates from 11am – 12 pm:

Date	Time	Meeting information
Wednesday, 10/18/23	11am-12pm	Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 296 363 284 302 Passcode: czAAiV Dial in (audio only) +1 971-277-2343,,782172827# Phone Conference ID: 782 172 827#
Wednesday, 11/1/23	11am-12pm	

You may also email questions to APD’s Population Health Quality Improvement team at APD.PopulationHealth@odhs.oregon.gov.

Thank you for your help in improving safety and wellbeing for residents of adult foster homes.

If you have any questions, email APD.AFHTeam@odhs.oregon.gov.