

## **CAN I SCHEDULE FLU VACCINES FOR MY FAMILY IN SOUTH SHORE MYCHART?**

Yes, families can be scheduled together in South Shore MyChart, provided that the parent has proxy access to the MyChart accounts of the children.

Once you have identified the appropriate date and time, schedule the appointment for the parent or guardian. After that appointment has been made, repeat the process for each of your children, selecting the same date and time.

If the specific time slot is no longer available, please select the closest available time slot and we will do our best to accommodate your family.

Please remember that there is a limit of 4 patients per vehicle in the drive-thru.

To learn how to set up proxy access in MyChart, please visit [SouthShoreHealth.org/Flu](https://SouthShoreHealth.org/Flu).

## **WHAT IS THE PREFERRED WAY TO SCHEDULE A FLU VACCINE APPOINTMENT?**

Patients should schedule their flu vaccines in South Shore MyChart.

Using MyChart lets you to view a wide range of dates and times, allowing you to choose the appointment that best fits your schedule.

Additionally, documentation confirming that you received your flu vaccine will be available in your MyChart account after your visit, making it easy to download or print for your records.

Parents of pediatric patients should ensure that they have proxy access to the MyChart accounts of their children to make scheduling as easy as possible.

## **DO YOU HAVE HIGH-DOSE FLU VACCINES FOR PATIENTS OVER 65?**

As of early September, we haven't received our shipment of high-dose flu vaccines. We encourage patients seeking a high-dose vaccine to schedule an appointment for later in September or early October.

## **WHAT IS THE TYPE OF VACCINE GIVEN AT THE DRIVE THRU?**

The flu vaccine given at the drive thru is a quadrivalent flu vaccine.

On a basic level, this means that the vaccine offers protection against four flu strains (two strains of influenza A and two strains of influenza B).

## **HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN COME IN A CAR TO THE DRIVE THRU?**

Vehicles in the drive-thru must have no more than 4 patients who are receiving flu vaccines. Each patient must be seated next to a window in order for our team to administer the vaccine. Please do not use middle seats or third rows.

For more information on preparing for your drive-thru flu vaccine, please visit [SouthShoreHealth.org/Flu](https://SouthShoreHealth.org/Flu).

## **WHEN SHOULD I GET MY FLU VACCINE?**

It can take up to two weeks for antibodies to develop after you receive the vaccine. As a result, it's best to get the flu vaccine in early fall, before the flu virus is widespread in your community.

## **WHEN SHOULD PATIENTS CHOOSE A DRIVE-THRU APPOINTMENT VERSUS AN IN-PERSON APPOINTMENT?**

In order to reduce the number of patients in our facilities and to maintain social distance, the drive thru will be the preferred method of distribution for vaccines this flu season.

We encourage all patients to use the drive thru, unless a patient meets one of the following criteria:

- Receiving the vaccine for the first time
- Egg allergies
- History of fainting or reactions to the flu vaccine
- History of difficulty receiving injections

## **WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR A DRIVE-THRU VACCINE APPOINTMENT?**

Patients should wear clothing that allows for easy access to the injection site.

Adult patients should wear shirts with short sleeves and should remove any outerwear prior to arrival.

As children under the age of 2 usually receive the flu vaccine in the thigh, these patients should wear diapers/onesies or shorts.

## **HOW WILL THE STAFF ACCESS MY CHILD IN THE CAR SEAT?**

In some cases, staff members may need to open the car door in order to provide vaccinations to children in car seats.

Ensuring that your child is wearing a diaper, onesie, or shorts will help make the process easier.

## **WILL THE PARENT BE EXPECTED TO BE IN THE BACKSEAT WITH THE CHILD?**

While parents do not need to sit in the backseat with their child, staff members may ask for parental assistance, if needed.

## **HOW CAN I ACCESS THE SCHOOL FORM FOR PROOF OF IMMUNIZATION?**

Proof of immunization forms will be available in your South Shore MyChart account shortly after your visit.

These forms can be downloaded and printed for those who need proof of immunization for school or work.

## **WHAT ARE THE RESTRICTIONS FOR RECEIVING A DRIVE-THRU FLU VACCINE?**

Patients who meet any of the criteria below are ineligible for a drive-thru flu vaccine, and will be scheduled for an in-clinic vaccine instead:

- Patients receiving the vaccine for the first time
- Patients with egg allergies
- Patients with a history of fainting or reactions to the flu vaccine
- Patients with a history of difficulty receiving injections

## **IF THERE IS INCLEMENT WEATHER, WILL DRIVE-THRU FLU VACCINES STILL OCCUR?**

The safety of our patients and staff is our top priority. In the event of inclement weather, our team will shift drive-thru flu vaccine appointments indoors.

## **HOW CAN I OBTAIN THE VACCINE INFORMATION SHEET?**

After receiving the flu vaccine, patients will be given a postcard with a QR code that can be scanned in order to access the Vaccine Information Sheet (VIS).

Hard copies of the VIS will be available upon request.