

The Publicly Funded Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Post-Vaccination Care information

1. Influenza vaccine is a safe and inactivated vaccine containing killed viruses. Possible side effects of the vaccine include pain, redness and swelling at the injection site. A small number of people may experience mild reactions, such as fever, headache, muscle aches, nausea, itchy skin, hives or rash, which typically resolve within 1 to 2 days after vaccination. Serious side effects are very rare.
2. Approximately 1~2% of individuals may have a fever within 48 hours after vaccination. If this is the case for your child, please inform the doctor about the recent vaccination as a reference for diagnosis. If the fever persists for more than 48 hours after vaccination, it may be due to other possible infections or causes.
3. If your child experiences any symptoms of discomfort after vaccination, such as a persistent fever, changes in consciousness or behavior, difficulty breathing, or a rapid heartbeat, please seek medical attention immediately. You should also report the situation to your child's homeroom teacher/school nurse, the local health bureau, or call the Taiwan CDC's 1922 consultation hotline.
4. Fainting is often accompanied by symptoms such as dizziness and nausea, typically triggered by psychological stress or anxiety. Fainting after vaccination is especially common among adolescents. During mass vaccination, instances of collective fainting may occur and can be categorized as a collective psychogenic disease. Scientific evidence shows that fainting after vaccination is not linked to the safety of the vaccine itself and does not lead to any long-term health consequence. If fainting or dizziness persists after vaccination, please seek medical help immediately.
5. While the vaccine can reduce the risk of influenza infection, your child may still suffer from other respiratory tract infections. Please help your child to keep good hygiene and take preventive measures to stay healthy.
6. If your child is taking antiplatelet or anticoagulant medications or suffering from dysfunction of blood coagulation, he/she should compress the injection site for at least 2 minutes after vaccination and monitor for any signs of hemorrhage or hematoma.
7. In school-based influenza immunization programs, every student gets one dose of vaccine in school. Students below grade 2 who are receiving their first-ever flu vaccine may receive the second dose at their own expense at any designated clinic/hospital at least 4 weeks after the first dose received at school.