



FLUAD[®]

Influenza Vaccine (surface antigen,
inactivated, adjuvanted with MF59[®])

PATIENT INFORMATION

FLUAD[®] provides active immunization of
adults 65 years of age and older.



Visit fluad.ca for even more information!

Read this carefully before you are given FLUAD®. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this vaccine. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

What is FLUAD® used for?

FLUAD® is an inactivated influenza virus vaccine against influenza subtypes A and B contained in the vaccine, indicated in adults 65 years of age and older.

How does FLUAD® work?

- Like other influenza vaccines, FLUAD® causes the body to produce antibodies against the virus.
- This means that when your body is exposed to the flu virus, your body is able to defend itself. The antibodies stop the attacking virus.
- You cannot catch influenza from the vaccine, since it only contains portions of the virus, and not the whole live virus.
- Your body takes 2 to 3 weeks to produce antibodies after vaccination.
 - Therefore, if you are exposed to influenza immediately before or after your vaccination, you could still develop the illness.
- The vaccine will not protect you against the common cold, even though some of the symptoms are similar to influenza.
- Influenza viruses change all the time, so different vaccines are made every year. To stay protected against influenza, you need to be re-vaccinated every year before the winter season.

It is particularly important for some groups of people to be vaccinated. These include people with certain medical conditions, elderly people, people who are likely to be exposed to the infection, and people on certain medications. If you are in doubt as to whether you should be vaccinated, talk to your local healthcare professionals.

FLUAD® follows the World Health Organization (WHO) and National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommendation for vaccination for the northern hemisphere.

FLUAD® does not contain thimerosal or any other preservative.

The syringe plunger does not contain latex and FLUAD® is considered safe for use in persons with latex allergies.

Do not use FLUAD® if:

- You have a history of hypersensitivity to egg proteins or other components of the vaccine
- You have had a life-threatening reaction to previous influenza vaccination

If Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) has occurred within six weeks of previous influenza vaccination, the decision to give FLUAD® should be based on careful consideration of the potential benefits and risks.

Immunocompromised patients may have a diminished immune response to FLUAD®.

Other warnings you should know about:

BEFORE you receive FLUAD®, talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you:

- Are allergic to eggs or egg-products
- Are allergic to any of the following: kanamycin and neomycin sulphate, hydrocortisone, formaldehyde, cetyltrimethylammonium bromide, or polysorbate 80
- Have a fever, or you think you may be getting a fever
- Had a serious reaction to any flu vaccine in the past
- Have any known allergies
- Have experienced any health problems
- Are currently on any medication (i.e., immunosuppressant, theophylline, anticoagulants such as warfarin)



FLUAD® may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

As with any vaccine, immunization with FLUAD® may not protect 100% of individuals against influenza disease.

Immunosuppressive therapies may reduce immune response to FLUAD®.

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Safety and effectiveness of FLUAD® has not been established in pregnant women and nursing mothers.

No interaction between FLUAD® and other vaccines or medication is known.

**FLUAD®**

How to take FLUAD®:

FLUAD® is only to be given by injection into a muscle.

Usual dose:

- Adults aged 65 years and over: A single dose of 0.5 mL.

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment and supervision should always be readily available in case of a rare anaphylactic event following the administration of the vaccine.

If you think you have been given too many doses of FLUAD®, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional poison control center immediately, even if there are no symptoms.



What are possible side effects from using FLUAD®?

Occasionally people have side effects with influenza vaccines.

The most common of these are:

- Fever
- Headache
- Feeling unwell
- Sweating
- Shivering
- Muscle joint pain
- Tiredness
- Warmth

Skin reactions include redness, swelling, pain, ecchymosis (blue/black staining of the skin) and a hardening of the skin at the injection site and itching. These reactions will normally disappear without treatment in a day or two.



Reporting Suspected Side Effects

For the general public: Should you experience a side effect following immunization, please report it to your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

Should you require information related to the management of the side effect, please contact your healthcare professional. The Public Health Agency of Canada, Health Canada and Seqirus UK Limited cannot provide medical advice.

If you want more information about FLUAD®:

- Talk to your healthcare professional.
- Find the full Product Monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website, the manufacturer's website (www.seqirus.ca), or by calling 1-855-358-8966.
- **Visit fluad.ca**

The Drug Identification Number (DIN) for FLUAD® is 02362384.
Your insurance company may ask for this number.

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