Recommendations Regarding Influenza Vaccination for Persons Who Report Allergy to Eggs - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2017-18 Influenza Season

After exposure to egg, did the patient experience ONLY hives?

Yes

Administer any licensed and recommended influenza vaccine (i.e., any age-appropriate IIV or RIV) that is otherwise appropriate for the recipient’s age and health status.

No

After exposure to egg, did the patient have symptoms other than hives, such as angioedema, respiratory distress, lightheadedness, or recurrent emesis; or require epinephrine or another emergency medical intervention?

Yes

May similarly receive any licensed and recommended influenza vaccine (i.e., any age-appropriate IIV or RIV) that is otherwise appropriate for the recipient’s age and health status. The selected vaccine should be administered in an inpatient or outpatient medical setting (including but not necessarily limited to hospitals, clinics, health departments, and physician offices). Vaccine administration should be supervised by a health care provider who is able to recognize and manage severe allergic conditions.

No

A previous severe allergic reaction to influenza vaccine, regardless of the component suspected of being responsible for the reaction, is a contraindication to future receipt of the vaccine.

Abbreviations: RIV = recombinant influenza vaccine, trivalent; IIV = inactivated influenza vaccine

- Observe all patients for 15 minutes after vaccination to decrease the risk for injury should they experience syncope, per the ACIP General Recommendations on Immunization.
- Persons with egg allergy might tolerate egg in baked products (e.g., bread or cake). Tolerance to egg-containing foods does not exclude the possibility of egg allergy.
- History of severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to egg is a labeled contraindication to the use of IIV and LAIV. Egg allergy can be confirmed by a consistent medical history of adverse reactions to eggs and egg-containing foods, plus skin and/or blood testing for immunoglobulin E directed against egg proteins.
- Adapted from Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2017–18 Influenza Season. The full article is available here.