

Flu vaccine information

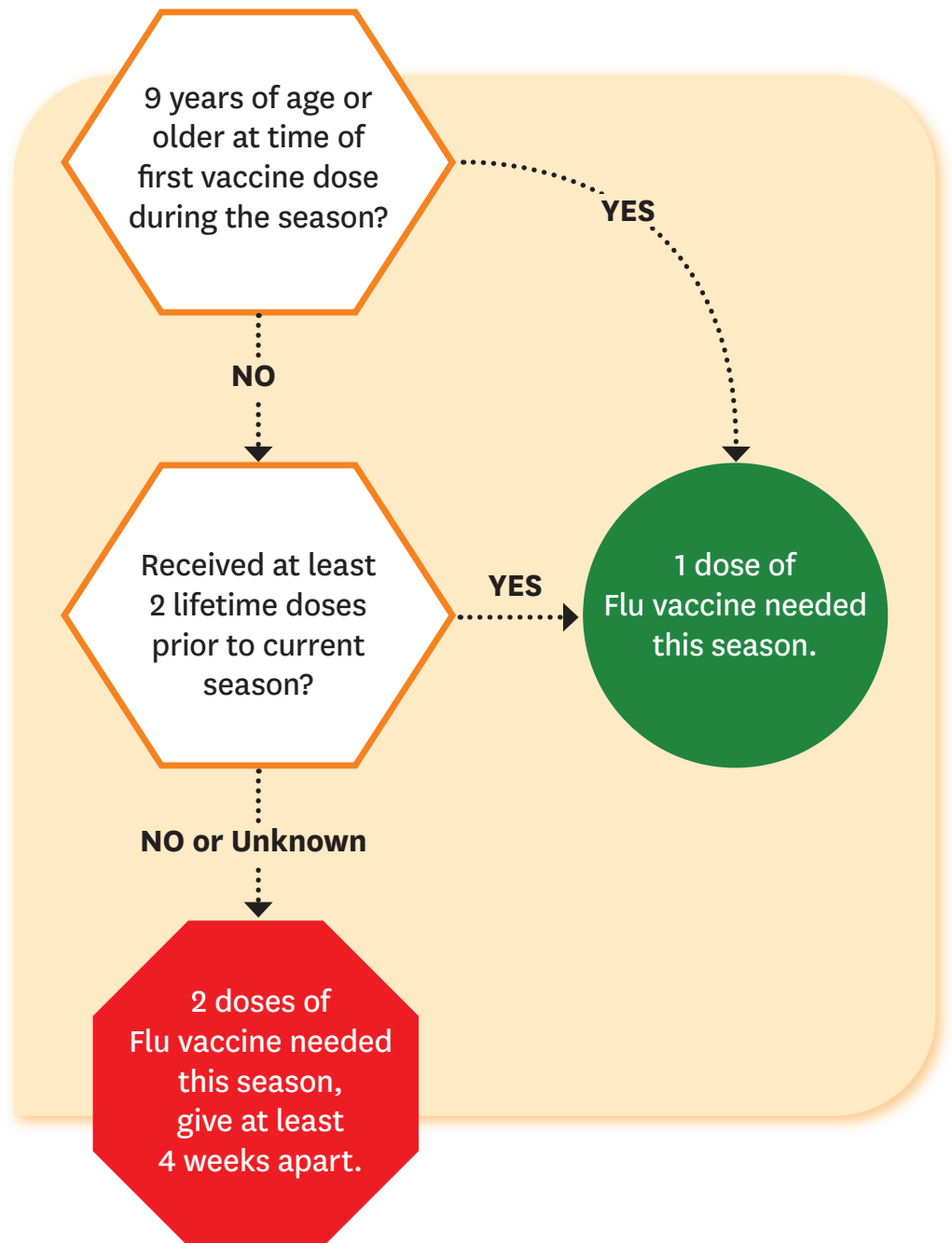


Now is the time to start planning for Flu season and Flu vaccine administration.

The CDC recommends that nearly everyone 6-months and up should get the Flu vaccine.

Children under 9-years-old require 2 doses of Flu vaccine in the same Flu season if they have not previously received 2 doses of Flu vaccine.

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Helpful hints for immunizing your pediatric patients for Flu vaccine:

Set expectations for immunizing for Flu. Explain to patients and their parents that although the Flu vaccine may not prevent 100% of Flu cases, it lowers their risk of getting inFLUENZA as well as lowers their rate of hospitalization and serious disease from inFLUENZA.

- a. For anyone needing 2 doses of Flu vaccine, especially children under 2-years-old, start Flu vaccine series as soon as August or September to give these younger patients the time to get both doses.
- b. Order your Flu vaccine early and monitor your stock on hand to order more if needed.
- c. Flu vaccine can be given at the same time as other needed vaccines.
- d. Complete the Flu vaccine series even after the peak of the season. This prepares the child for the following Flu season by needing only one dose to be fully immunized for Flu. This also helps set YOU up for success to meet the HEDIS measure for childhood immunization status. Remember, for HEDIS, infants and toddlers need 2 doses of Flu vaccine BEFORE they turn 24-months-old.
- e. Flu clinics, standing orders, reminder calls and reminder messages are just some ideas to boost vaccine rates.
- f. Remember, a strong recommendation by you as their provider, can make all the difference in parent's acceptance of a yearly Flu vaccine for their children.

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