

Respiratory Vaccines of Interest

GREGORY GAHM, MD

CMDA 10/4/22

Respiratory Vaccine Purpose

The purpose is NOT to prevent the disease!!!

The purpose is to generate a quicker, more robust immune response that will decrease the risk for serious illness and death.

Covid Bivalent Booster

Research was done with the Omicron BA1 spike protein, which had marginally better increases in neutralizing antibody than the original vaccine

Because BA 4 and BA 5 had become the predominant strains by early summer, the FDA instructed manufacturers to use BA 4/5 Spike Protein Components rather than BA 1...

Covid Bivalent Booster

- ▶ Approved 8/31/22
 - ▶ Pfizer: >11 years old
 - ▶ Moderna: >17 years old
- ▶ To be given >2 months after either the primary vaccine series or a previous booster
- ▶ Must have completed a primary series before receiving it

Covid Bivalent Booster

- ▶ Monovalent mRNA Vaccines are no longer authorized as boosters
- ▶ Novavax is NOT (yet) approved as a booster
- ▶ As of now, unless a person is receiving their initial vaccine, **the only way to be up-to-date is to have the bivalent booster**
- ▶ Given >2 months after previous vaccine or booster,
or... >3 months after a Covid infection

Influenza 2022

Of the 4 vaccine components (A:H3N2; A:H1N1, B & B), it is the **A:H3N2** that causes the most illness and death in seniors.

This year's A:H3N2 component is new, so there will not be any background community immunity, so... it *should* be a worse than normal year?

Influenza 2022

When to give it?

- ▶ Staff / Younger persons without Immunocompromise: Now
- ▶ Residents: November or December due to waning immunity

Influenza 2022

Why wait?

- ▶ In a typical season, Influenza A arrives in endemic numbers between mid-January and April 1
- ▶ In seniors, immunity begins waning around 90 days...

Covid + Influenza

- ▶ The vaccines may be given at the same time
- ▶ Persons who are immunocompromised or >65 years old should get either **HIGH DOSE** or **ADJUVANT** vaccine
- ▶ Give doses in any reasonable muscle mass separated by at least 1"

Covid? Influenza? RSV?

- ▶ Airborn vs Aerosol
 - ▶ Ventilate!
- ▶ Masks?
- ▶ Handwashing?

Covid? Influenza? RSV?

Hard to tell with 100% accuracy based solely on symptoms, but...

- ▶ Rapid onset and HIGH Fever favor it being influenza
- ▶ Early Tamiflu or Relenza + Testing (*DC Antiviral if test neg*)
- ▶ Prophylaxis? Ugh. Ask me later

Questions?

