

Enhanced inactivated influenza (flu) vaccines in those aged 65 years and older



What is HIQA doing?

We are undertaking a health technology assessment (HTA) on the use of enhanced inactivated influenza (flu) vaccines in those aged 65 years and older, as part of the Health Service Executive's (HSE's) Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme.

What has HIQA published?

We have published the protocol which outlines the approach we are using to complete this assessment. It explains the areas the assessment will focus on, such as clinical and cost effectiveness, and the methods we will use.



Seasonal Flu Vaccination Programme

In Ireland, the HSE offers free flu vaccines to people aged 65 years and older. The programme is widely used, with more than seven out of 10 people in this cohort accessing the vaccine.



Consultation

Later in 2024, we will launch a public consultation on this HTA.

Further information on this consultation and how you can be involved will be shared on our website and social media.



Flu vaccines

The programme currently uses a standard quadrivalent flu vaccine for those aged 65 years and older. Despite high uptake, flu still presents a considerable burden for this age cohort. We will assess if switching to an enhanced flu vaccine would lead to improved outcomes and represent an efficient use of healthcare resources.