

A GUIDE TO NEW **4-STRAIN** FLU VACCINES

A QUADRIVALENT (4-STRAIN) VACCINE

is a new type of flu vaccine available this flu season that helps provide protection against four flu virus strains. Previously, flu vaccines helped to protect against three flu virus strains, out of four that typically circulate.

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

Since the late 1980s, scientists have noted

FOUR MAJOR FLU STRAINS THAT HAVE CIRCULATED

and spread each flu season, making it challenging for experts to choose which three flu virus strains to include in seasonal flu vaccines.

4-strain flu vaccines* available for the 2013-14 flu season will help protect against the four flu virus strains expected to circulate this flu season.

4-strain flu vaccines are made in the same way 3-strain flu vaccines have been made for many years, the only difference is the addition of one more strain to help protect against another flu virus.

It is important to get a flu shot every year because the viruses that circulate may vary each season and protection from vaccination declines over time.

4-strain flu vaccines are available for the first time this flu season.

IN 6 OF THE LAST 11 FLU SEASONS,

(2001-2 through 2011-12) there was a

MISMATCH

and a fourth flu virus strain not included in seasonal flu vaccines circulated and spread.

Of the 135-139 million doses of flu vaccine projected to be available for the 2013-14 flu season, manufacturers estimate that

30-32 MILLION DOSES

will be

4-STRAIN FLU VACCINES.



*Quadrivalent flu vaccines are available as both intranasal spray and shots.

For more information on quadrivalent (4-strain) flu vaccines, go to www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/quadrivalent.htm