Flu Prevention and Treatment

A PRESBYTERIAN

Influenza (Flu)

Often caused by influenza (flu) viruses A and B. The flu strains are different every year and can cause mild to severe illness, in some cases leading to death.



Prevention

- Get your yearly flu vaccine
- Encourage family & friends to get their flu vaccine
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid close contact with people that may have the flu
- Limit touching your eyes, nose and mouth after coming into contact with people that have the flu
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing



The Flu Vaccine

The flu vaccine is used to help prevent you from getting the flu

- Help prevent spreading the flu to family and friends
- Can be lifesaving for children
- Reduce hospital stays caused by the flu
- Lessen the severity of flu symptoms
- Approved vaccines include the flu shot and nose spray for some children and adults

Everyone age six months or older should get a yearly flu vaccine

- People with life-threatening allergies to the flu vaccine or the vaccine ingredients shouldn't get the flu vaccine
- Always check with your healthcare team to decide which option is right for you

Treatment

Home Treatment Options:



- Stay home and rest
- Drink plenty of liquids
- Avoid alcohol and tobacco products

Antiviral Drugs May Be an Option for you:

- Your provider may recommend this option
- These drugs may shorten the time you are sick and prevent hospital stays caused by the flu

