

Top 5 Reasons for Pre-booking Vaccines for the 2022-2023 Flu Season

Based on the findings from the annual [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) influenza report, flu activity was unusually low throughout the 2020-2021 flu season in the United States. Much of that decline can be attributed to COVID-19 precautions including wearing face masks, increased hand washing, quarantining, and limiting travel. These are all effective methods for preventing the spread of illnesses, but with COVID-19 restrictions beginning to lift or relax across the country, it is difficult to predict the full impact this will have on the upcoming flu season. While flu season typically [begins in October](#), it is never too early for physician practices and clinics to begin preparing. Below are five significant benefits of reserving your influenza vaccine supply for the 2022-2023 season.

1: Reliable Inventory

Vaccines are produced by private manufacturers who are taking measures such as extending manufacturing timelines to ensure they can meet the robust demand for vaccines and supplies. Though influenza manufacturers are [not currently anticipating supply shortages](#), pre-booking provides a safeguard against any potential supply chain delays and helps maintain continuous inventory between shipments. The CDC recommends healthcare facilities pre-book their influenza vaccines [between January and March](#).

2: Caregiver Wellbeing

In order to effectively care for others, [caregivers must remain physically and mentally healthy](#). Healthcare organizations can promote a healthy workplace and support their employees by making vaccinations to preventable diseases, like the flu, readily available at no cost. Pre-booking allows providers to take proactive measures to ensure there is vaccine inventory for their staff, allowing for pre-scheduled vaccinations, reduced sick days, and consistent operational efficiency.

3: Provider Competition

To remain competitive in an increasingly [consumer-driven landscape](#), provider practices and clinics must be able to deliver exceptional and convenient care experiences. Pre-ordering not only allows practices and clinics to receive their vaccine at a favorable, competitive time, but also gives clinicians the opportunity proactively notify their patients that they will be administering flu shots in the fall so that patients can book appointments at a time that is convenient for their schedule.



4: Opportunity for Co-Administration

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, health experts have reported decreased rates in routine vaccinations by [32% for adults and 36% for adolescents in 2020-2021](#). This decline has negative implications on public health in the United States and puts the opportunity of herd immunity against flu strains from previous seasons at risk. By offering [co-administered influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations](#) and booster shots, patients can conveniently schedule appointments to receive multiple vaccines in one visit. [CDC guidance](#) has offered this solution as a safe and effective method for increasing routine vaccinations in patient populations and reducing overall burden on the healthcare industry.

5: Favorable Pricing

Though pre-booking your vaccine supply requires an early commitment, partnering with a vaccine buying group that works directly with manufacturers and leading distributors can help ensure more favorable pricing, flexible payment options, and purchasing terms for your reservation.

Influenza vaccine distribution generally [begins in August and continues through the fall](#) until all vaccines have been distributed. Providers are encouraged to stay ahead of the market by taking a proactive approach to protecting their caregivers and communities against the flu.

If your practice or clinic has any questions or needs assistance with pre-booking their flu order, please [contact us](#).