## Needle Length and Injection Site for Inactivated Influenza Vaccine

## Inactivated influenza vaccine must be administered by the intramuscular route only

Birth through 18 years of age		
Age	Needle Length	Injection Site
Infant 6 – 12 months	1" (25 mm)	Anterolateral thigh
Toddler 1 - 2 years	1" - 1 1/4" (25-32 mm) 5/8"* - 1" (16-25 mm)	Anterolateral thigh <sup>+</sup> Deltoid muscle of the arm
Child/adolescent 3 through 18 years	5/8"* - 1" (16-25 mm) 1" - 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " (25-32 mm)	Deltoid muscle of the arm <sup>+</sup> Anterolateral thigh
	19 years of age ar	nd older
Sex/weight	Needle Length	Injection Site
Male and female less than 130 lbs (60 kg)	1" (25 mm)	Deltoid muscle of the arm
Female 130 - 200 lbs (60-90 kg)	1" - 1½" (25-38 mm)	Deltoid muscle of the arm
Male 130 – 260 lbs (60- 118 kg)	1½" (38 mm)	Deltoid muscle of the arm
Female more than 200 lbs (90 kg)	1½" (38 mm)	Deltoid muscle of the arm
Male more than 260 lbs (118 kg)	1½" (38 mm)	Deltoid muscle of the arm

<sup>\*</sup>A 5/8" needle may be used only if the skin is stretched tight, the subcutaneous tissue is not bunched, and the injection is made at a 90-degree angle.

Adapted from *General Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. MMWR* 2006;55(RR-15). September 2009.

<sup>\*</sup>Preferred site.