

Live attenuated flu vaccine not effective for children in 2015-16

August 10 2017



(HealthDay)—During the 2015 to 2016 season, influenza vaccines

reduced the risk of influenza illness, but the live attenuated vaccine was ineffective among children 2 to 17 years of age, according to a study published in the Aug. 10 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Michael L. Jackson, Ph.D., from the Group Health Research Institute in Seattle, and colleagues enrolled patients age 6 months of age or older who presented with [acute respiratory illness](#) at ambulatory care clinics. Vaccine effectiveness was estimated using a test-negative design.

The researchers found that 19 percent of the 6,879 eligible participants tested positive for [influenza virus](#), predominantly for A(H1N1)pdm09 and influenza B (11 and 7 percent, respectively). The effectiveness of the influenza vaccine was 48 percent against any influenza illness (95 percent confidence interval [CI], 41 to 55 percent; P vaccine effectiveness, 5 percent; 95 percent CI, -47 to 39 percent; P = 0.80). Among children, vaccine effectiveness against A(H1N1)pdm09 was 63 percent for the inactivated vaccine (95 percent CI, 45 to 75 percent; P

"Influenza vaccines reduced the risk of influenza illness in 2015 to 2016," the authors write. "However, the live attenuated vaccine was found to be ineffective among children in a year with substantial inactivated [vaccine](#) effectiveness."

More information: [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2017 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Live attenuated flu vaccine not effective for children in 2015-16 (2017, August 10) retrieved 5 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-08-attenuated-flu-vaccine-effective-children.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.