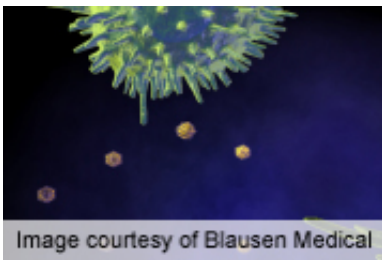


# High-dose flu vaccine better protects HIV-infected adults

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HIV-infected adults achieve higher rates of seroprotection when immunized with a high-dose of the influenza trivalent vaccine compared to the standard dose, according to a study published in the Jan. 1 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

(HealthDay)—HIV-infected adults achieve higher rates of seroprotection when immunized with a high-dose of the influenza trivalent vaccine compared to the standard dose, according to a study published in the Jan. 1 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Noah McKittrick, M.D., from University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and colleagues randomly assigned 190 HIV-infected persons (older than 18 years) to receive either a standard dose (15 mcg of antigen per strain; 93 participants) or a high dose (60 mcg/strain; 97 participants) of the influenza trivalent vaccine. The rate of seroprotection was assessed, defined as antibody titers of 1:40 or greater on the hemagglutination inhibition assay 21 to 28 days after vaccination.

Seroconversion, defined as a greater than four-fold increase in antibody titers, and the geometric mean antibody titer were also assessed.

The researchers found that, in the high-dose group, seroprotection rates were higher for H1N1 (96 versus 87 percent;  $P = 0.029$ ), H3N2 (96 versus 92 percent;  $P = 0.32$ ), and [influenza B](#) (91 versus 80 percent;  $P = 0.030$ ) strains. Both standard- and high-dose vaccines were well tolerated, with the most frequent [adverse events](#) being myalgia (19 percent), malaise (14 percent), and local pain (10 percent).

"The implications of this research are important for future vaccination efforts in the HIV-positive population," the authors write. "This study suggests that a substantial number of HIV-infected patients may not be obtaining sufficient protection with the standard [influenza vaccine](#)."

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

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