

# **Coming back this fall: The Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine!**

## **Why is it coming back?**

This February the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to add FluMist to its list of acceptable flu vaccines. Because Mayo Clinic follows the ACIP recommendations, it will offer FluMist as an option this fall. We will start with our School-Located Immunization Program this September.

## **Why was it gone?**

In the previous two years the ACIP had reviewed data available that indicated that FluMist was failing to provide protection, particularly with regard to one strain in the vaccine. The ACIP chose to not recommend FluMist the last two years.

## **Why did ACIP change its recommendation?**

The company that makes FluMist has since changed out the vaccine form of the problem strain. The company presented evidence this February to ACIP that showed FluMist now produced stronger immune response than the previous version. At that meeting the ACIP also reviewed a systematic review of FluMist studies that showed it compared well with the other forms of flu vaccine.

## **Was FluMist still used in the last 2 years?**

The Food and Drug Administration licenses each flu vaccine based on immune response. It continued to license FluMist the last two years just as it has for the injected form. Countries around the world continued to give FluMist in the last two years despite the U.S. decision not to do so.