

**Influenza Virus Vaccine  
Strain Selection  
2025 – 2026 Influenza Season in the U.S.**

**CDC/DoD/FDA  
Interagency Meeting (03/13/2025)**

***Jerry P Weir, PhD, Director  
Division of Viral Products/OVRR/CBER/FDA***

# Purpose of Today's Interagency Meeting Discussion

---

- Review influenza surveillance and epidemiology data, genetic and antigenic characteristics of recent virus isolates, serological responses to current vaccines, and the availability of candidate vaccine strains and reagents
- Discuss recommendations for the strains of influenza A (H1N1 and H3N2) and influenza B viruses to be included in influenza virus vaccines for use in United States during the 2025-2026 influenza season

# Agenda Outline

---



- Introduction
- U.S. Influenza Virus Surveillance
- Global Influenza Virus Surveillance and Characterization
- DoD Influenza Virus Surveillance and Mid-Season Vaccine Effectiveness
- Candidate Vaccine Strains & Potency Reagents
- Discussion and Recommendation

# Most Recent Recommendations for Influenza Vaccines for Use in the United States - 2024-2025



- VRBPAC recommendation for the antigenic composition of the 2024-2025 influenza virus vaccines in the U.S. (March 5, 2024)
  - Influenza A (H1N1)
    - an A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (Egg-based Vaccines)
    - an A/Wisconsin/67/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (Cell- or Recombinant-based Vaccines)
  - Influenza A (H3N2)
    - an A/Thailand/8/2022 (H3N2)-like virus (Egg-based Vaccines)
    - an A/Massachusetts/18/2022 (H3N2)-like virus (Cell- or Recombinant-based Vaccines)
  - Influenza B (for trivalent and quadrivalent vaccines)
    - a B/Austria/1359417/2021-like virus (B/Victoria lineage)
  - Influenza B (for quadrivalent vaccines containing the above 3 virus strains) intended for ex-U.S. distribution
    - a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (Yamagata lineage)

# Most Recent Recommendations for Southern Hemisphere Influenza Vaccines - 2025

---



- VRBPAC recommendation for virus strains to be included in the 2025 Southern Hemisphere formulation of influenza vaccines licensed in the United States (October 10, 2024)
  - The committee recommended that trivalent egg-based vaccines for use in the Southern Hemisphere influenza season contain:
    - An A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
    - An A/Croatia/10136RV/2023 (H3N2)-like virus; and
    - A B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus
  - For quadrivalent 2025 SH formulation of influenza vaccines, the committee recommended inclusion of a B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus as the 2<sup>nd</sup> influenza B strain in the vaccine

# Discussion

---

1. Please discuss the recommendation of a trivalent 2025-2026 formulation for egg-based influenza virus vaccines in the U.S. that contains the following virus strains:
  - An A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
  - An A/Croatia/10136RV/2023 (H3N2)-like virus; and
  - A B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus
  
2. Please discuss the recommendation of a trivalent 2025-2026 formulation for cell- and recombinant-based influenza vaccines in the U.S. that contains the following virus strains:
  - An A/Wisconsin/67/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
  - An A/District of Columbia/27/2023 (H3N2)-like virus; and
  - A B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG**  
ADMINISTRATION