

Candidate Vaccine Strains and Potency Reagents: 2026-27 Northern Hemisphere Influenza Season

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Topics to be covered

- Viruses recommended for production of 2026 southern hemisphere influenza vaccines
- Availability of potency reagents for vaccine testing
- Planning for 2026-27 northern hemisphere influenza season (reagents for new recommended strains)

Influenza A (H1N1)



Recommended influenza viruses for 2026 SH seasonal influenza vaccines:

- For egg-based vaccines: an A/Missouri/11/2025 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus
- For cell culture-, recombinant protein- or nucleic acid-based vaccines: an A/Missouri/11/2025 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus

For 2026-2027 NH seasonal vaccines:

Data collected and reviewed by the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) support the same vaccine composition for 2026-2027 NH seasonal vaccines

Candidate Vaccine Viruses (CVVs): available from CDC, USA; Sanofi, USA; MHRA, UK; VIDRL, Australia

Influenza A (H3N2)



Recommended influenza virus strains for 2026 SH seasonal influenza vaccines:

- For egg-based vaccines: an A/Singapore/GP20238/2024 (H3N2)-like virus
- For cell culture-, recombinant protein- or nucleic acid-based vaccines: an A/Sydney/1359/2024 (H3N2)-like virus

For 2026-2027 NH seasonal vaccines:

Data collected and reviewed by the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) support inclusion of a new A(H3N2) virus:

- For egg-based vaccines: an A/Darwin/1454/2025 (H3N2)-like virus
- For cell culture-, recombinant protein- or nucleic acid-based vaccines: an A/Darwin/1415/2025 (H3N2)-like virus

Candidate Vaccine Viruses (CVVs): available from CDC, USA; VIDRL, Australia

Influenza B (B/Victoria lineage)



Recommended influenza virus for 2026 SH seasonal influenza vaccines:

- For egg-based vaccines: a B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus
- For cell culture-, recombinant protein- or nucleic acid-based vaccines: a B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus

For 2026-2027 NH seasonal vaccines:

Data collected and reviewed by the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) support inclusion of a new B strain virus:

- For egg-based vaccines: a B/Tokyo/EIS13-175/2025 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus
- For cell culture-, recombinant protein- or nucleic acid-based vaccines: a B/Pennsylvania/14/2025 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus

Candidate Vaccine Viruses (CVVs): available from NIID, Japan

Potency reagents for the A(H1N1)pdm09 component

Virus/Reassortant	Source	Reference Antigen Lot#	Antiserum Lot#
A/Switzerland/6849/2025 (IVR-278) (egg)	CBER	H1-Ag-2513	H1-Ab-2512
	MHRA	25/222	25/224
	TGA	2025/154B	AS467
A/Tasmania/318/2025 (CVR-351) (cell)	TGA	2025/156B	AS467

Potency reagents for new A(H3N2) and B/Victoria components:



- Based on the strain this committee recommends, CBER will work with manufacturers to prepare and calibrate new reference antigens as needed.

Thank You