

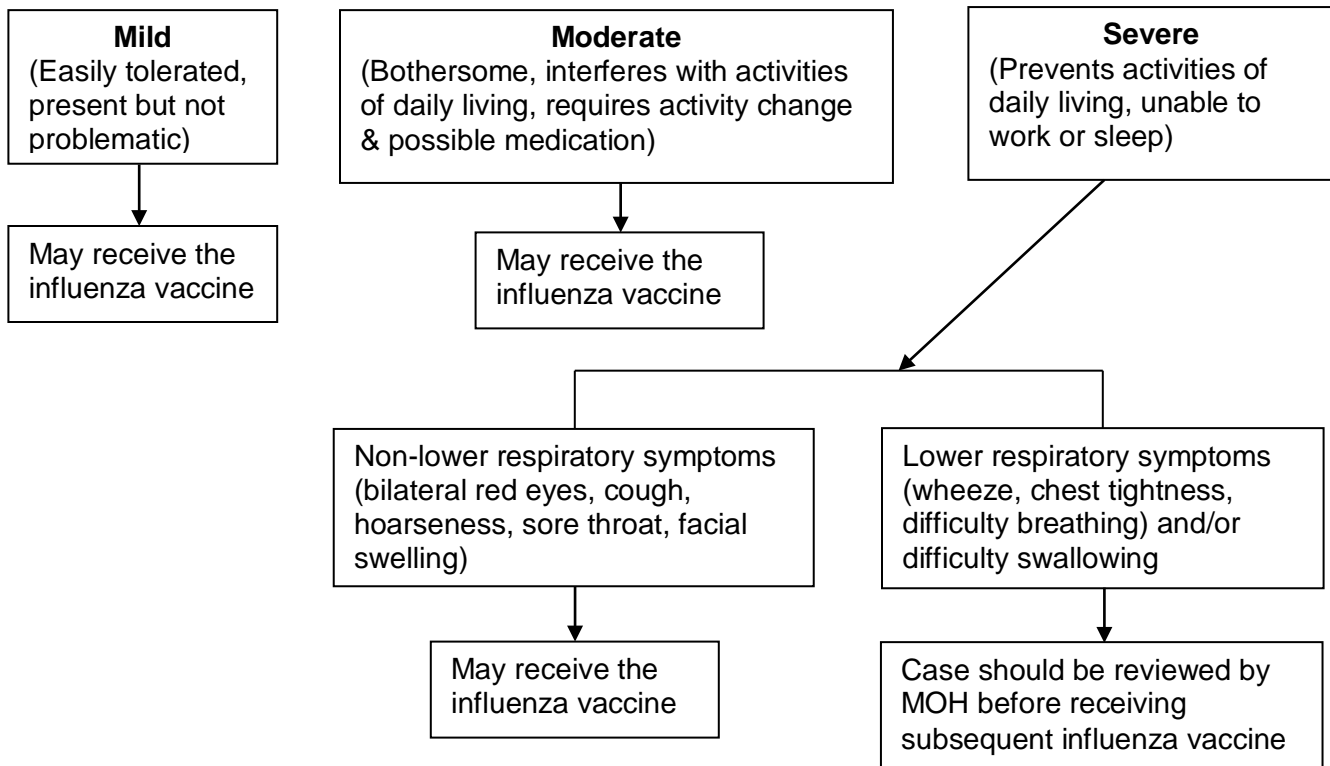
Decision Making Algorithm: Influenza Vaccine for Persons with Previous ORS Symptoms

Oculo-respiratory syndrome (ORS) Definition:

- bilateral red eyes **and**
- respiratory symptoms (cough, wheeze, chest tightness, difficulty breathing, difficulty swallowing, hoarseness or sore throat) **with or without** facial swelling

Occurring within 24 hours of immunization

How severe were the ORS symptoms?



Approximately 5% to 34% of individuals who have previously experienced ORS may have a recurrence attributable to the vaccine, but these episodes are usually milder than the original one. Individuals who have a recurrence of ORS upon re-immunization do not necessarily experience further episodes with further immunizations. There is no data to support the preference of one vaccine product over another when re-immunizing those who have previously experienced ORS.

References:

1. Alberta Health, Public Health and Compliance Division, Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) Policy for Alberta Immunization Providers (2018, December).
2. CMAJ, Oct 15, 2002 D. Skowronski, B. Strauss, P. Kendall, B. Duvall, G. DeSerres "Low risk of recurrence of oculo-respiratory syndrome following influenza vaccine"
3. National Advisory Committee on Immunization (2019). Canadian Immunization Guide Chapter on Influenza and Statement on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2019-2020. Ottawa, ON: Public Health Agency of Canada.
4. National Advisory Committee on Immunization (2006-01-03). Oculo-respiratory syndrome following influenza vaccination: Review of post-marketing surveillance through four influenza seasons in Canada. Ottawa, ON: Public Health Agency of Canada. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/05vol31/dr3121a-eng.php>