WHO HAS THE FLU? NOT YOU! Fluishot

What is influenza?

<u>Influenza virus</u>, commonly called the flu, is a virus that spreads between people that can affect your nose, throat and lungs. It is important to get your flu shot to protect yourself, your loved ones and others around you from getting sick from the flu.

When should I get my flu shot?

Flu shots are given every year during September to early March because over time our protection from the flu wears off. Therefore, an <u>annual flu shot</u> will help us stay protected each year. Typically, every year the flu virus changes, and new vaccines will have to be made to target new strains of the flu viruses if that is the case. It is important to get upto-date flu shots yearly from your local pharmacy.

Who can get the flu shot?

According to the <u>CDC</u>, EVERYONE unless under the age of 6 months, those who have a severe anaphylactic reaction to eggs, allergic to any ingredients in the flu shot or have a history of Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS). Call our pharmacists at 804-288-8361 to discuss the flu vaccines that we are currently carrying if you have any concerns.

Are you worried about COVID-19 and the flu shot?

<u>Your Bremo team</u> is taking extra precautions when giving all of our vaccines. We are wearing face shields, masks and gloves. All surfaces in our clinic are cleaned and disinfected after every use. Our staff are screened daily with temperature checks. Additionally, we are asking everyone that enters our clinic screening questions and to take their temperature. We are also encouraging anyone that is worried about coming into the pharmacy to use our curbside service for vaccinations. Call 804-288-8361 for more information or speak to a pharmacist today! To make it even easier and quicker, print out our 2020-2021 immunization form before you visit the pharmacy by clicking here.

Will the flu shot protect me from COVID-19?

No, the flu shot will not protect you from COVID-19 because they are different viruses, but the flu shot is still recommended. Getting the flu shot will prevent you from becoming sick with the flu which causes your immune system to work harder putting you at risk for other infections including COVID-19. Also, getting the flu shot may prevent you from getting sick and having to seek medical care which could expose you to more settings where you may contract COVID-19 such as hospitals and doctor's offices. Overall, our pharmacists recommend getting the flu shot to prevent the flu, especially if you have other health conditions that put you at risk for being hospitalized or catching other infections.