Commentary

An Overview on Pediatric Influenza Vaccine Recommendations

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DESCRIPTION

Influenza viruses are caused to a contagious respiratory illness in the nose, throat, and lungs. These infections sometimes cause death, and this illness is generally called flu. In the last few decades, health authorities in many countries worldwide mostly recommended the prevention and treatment of pediatric influenza. In those recommendations vaccination process is the main thing. The vaccination process is recommended for people groups who are primarily in contact with pediatric age groups. Almost all countries are recommended to people groups like older adults, healthy children, Health Care Workers (HCW), people with underlying medical conditions, and pregnant women. The United States recommends vaccination for everyone aged more than six months. Because of a higher rate of hospitalization and severity of influenza in children, from 2002, vaccination was recommended for the age group from six months to 23 months. Subsequently, this recommendation is extended to the age group of six months to 59 months of all pediatric populations. Every year in the US, the seasonal influenza vaccination process is started at the end of October.

A seasonal influenza outbreak has happened every October to March for the last few years. Vaccination to avoid flu is strongly recommended because influenza viruses often change from year to year. One dose per year is enough for children who are more than nine years old and have already taken a vaccination dose in previous years. Two doses in a year with four weeks of a gap is recommended for the children aged six months to nine years old and who have never taken a vaccine dose in previous years.

Some countries recommend vaccination for the age groups of six to 24 months and six to 36 months in some countries. In Italy, healthy children are not included in the list of the seasonal vaccination process. But, entire universal pediatric people were recommended to the vaccination of MF59 adjuvanted pandemic influenza vaccine.

The influenza vaccination is strongly recommended for children of six months to five years and suffering from heart or lung disorders like asthma, cystic fibrosis, and bronchopulmonary dysplasia. And who have chronic conditions such as cancer, immune deficiencies, and HIV must take vaccination. And who have chronic and metabolic diseases like diabetes, anemia or a blood disorder, kidney disease, neurodevelopmental disorder and obesity. For people who live with another child or who are having risk of complications of having flu. In the influenza vaccine recommendations, these chronic pulmonary or cardiovascular diseases, immune system disorders, renal diseases, and hematological diseases are considered risk factors for vaccination in countries as a percentage of preference.

The gap between any two childhood vaccines should be 14 days is better because it is easy for doctors to know the causes for side effects. The seasonal influenza vaccine can take before or after 14 days from the date of the COVID-19 vaccine. After vaccination, there is a mild fever and aches in the first two days. It is not good to give ibuprofen or acetaminophen to the children before or in the time of vaccination. The vaccine does not work on babies less than six months.

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