

# Influenza (flu) vaccination for older adults

Numbers for adults aged 60 years and older observed for 1 year.

	<b>1,000 older adults with <u>placebo</u> vaccination*</b>	<b>1,000 older adults with <u>influenza</u> vaccination</b>
<b>Benefits</b>		
How many older adults suffered from confirmed influenza (flu)?	42-128	17-45
How many older adults suffered from an influenza-like-illness?	39-98	21-84
How many older adults died (all-cause mortality)?	1-22	5-14
<b>Harms</b>		
How many older adults experienced pain or tenderness in their arm?	37	132
How many older adults suffered from redness, swelling, or hardening at the injection site?	9	71

\*These people received an injection with a saline solution instead of the influenza vaccine.

**Short summary:** The influenza vaccination may prevent adults aged 60 years and older from getting influenza (flu). The protective effect varies from year to year. Redness, pain, or swelling at the injection site are possible.

Sources: [1] RKI (ed.). RKI-Ratgeber für Ärzte: Influenza (Teil 1). 2016. [2] Buda et al. Bericht zur Epidemiologie der Influenza in Deutschland Saison 2014/2015. RKI (ed.). [3] Jefferson et al. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2010;2:CD004876.[4] Darvishian et al. *J Clin Epidemiol* 2014;67(7):734-44. [5] Beyer et al. *Vaccine* 2013;31(50):6030-3.