

# Pregnant women face higher risk for the flu

## lt's flu season!

Pregnant women who get the flu are more likely to develop serious complications, so it is important to get vaccinated.

### Get the vaccine

While basic prevention measures are important, vaccination is the single best way to protect against the flu. The flu vaccine is recommended for pregnant women.

### Follow flu prevention measures

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer is also effective in killing viruses.
- Cough and sneeze in your arm or sleeve, not your hand.
- Keep common surfaces and items clean and disinfected.
- Have a thermometer at home to check your temperature – a fever is 38° C (100.4 F°) or higher.
- Stay home if you have mild flu symptoms.

### Know the flu symptoms

Mild flu symptoms: Fever, cough, sore throat, sore joints, sore muscles and fatigue.

Severe flu symptoms: Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chest pain, bloody sputum (phlegm) and severe or persistent vomiting.

#### Remember

Being vaccinated while pregnant also protects your baby for up to 6 months after birth. MUUUUUU 6 months

Speak to your health care provider about being vaccinated and to learn more.