COVID-19 AND INFLUENZA

Will influenza and COVID-19 occur at the same time?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is warning of the potential of both influenza virus and coronavirus (the virus that causes COVID-19) spreading. Because both influenza (the flu) and COVID-19 can result in serious illness, hospitalizations or death, getting the influenza vaccine this fall will be more important than ever. Influenza and COVID-19 share the same symptoms. By getting the influenza vaccine, you are helping to reduce your risk of getting influenza – which could be confused with COVID-19.

Can I get influenza and COVID-19 at the same time?

The viruses that cause influenza and COVID-19 are different and can infect an individual simultaneously.

Will the influenza vaccine protect me from getting COVID-19?

The influenza virus is different from the coronavirus. This means the influenza vaccine will not protect you from COVID-19 but will reduce your risk of influenza illness, hospitalization and death.

Is there a vaccine for COVID-19?

Currently, a vaccine and boosters are available for COVID-19. Please continue proper hand hygiene and staying home when you are sick. Both viruses have the same symptoms, it is important to monitor yourself for fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea.

Call Sanford Health OccMed at (888) 600-2378 to discuss the influenza vaccine and/or the COVID-19 vaccine.

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