Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine

Last Review Date: July 14, 2017  Number: MG.MM.ME.60C

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Definition
FluMist® Quadrivalent (MedImmune LLC) is an intranasal spray approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for active immunization of persons 2 to 49 years of age for the prevention of influenza disease caused by influenza A subtype viruses and type B viruses.

FluMist, a live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), is currently the only non-injection-based flu vaccine available in the U.S.

Guideline
Intranasal influenza vaccine is not considered medically necessary, and will therefore not be covered, for the 2016–2017 flu season. *

Rationale
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has concluded that nasal spray flu vaccine containing live attenuated influenza virus (LAIV) should not be used during the 2016–2017 flu season.

CDC conducts vaccine effectiveness (VE) studies each season to estimate flu vaccine effectiveness. The ACIP decision is based upon data showing poor or relatively lower effectiveness of LAIV from 2013 through 2016.

*Vaccination with either inactivated influenza vaccine [IIV] or recombinant influenza vaccine [RIV] continues to be medically necessary for individuals 6 months and older.
Noncovered Procedure Codes

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent, live (LAIV3), for intranasal use</td>
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<td>90664</td>
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<td>90672</td>
<td>Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, live (LAIV4), for intranasal use</td>
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References

