



## Flu Vaccines in 2010

In 2010, HealthVax is pleased to offer a choice of influenza vaccines.

- Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup>: the traditional influenza vaccine
- Intanza<sup>®</sup>: the next generation of influenza vaccine technology

Both vaccines are manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur and have an equivalent immune response. However, there are a few significant differences between the two products:

- Needle length: the Intanza<sup>®</sup> needle is 10 times shorter than the Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup> needle as well as much thinner
- Vaccine volume: the volume of vaccine used in Intanza<sup>®</sup> is 5 times less than the volume used in Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup>
- Age specific: in 2010, Intanza<sup>®</sup> is only available for persons between the ages of 18 and 59\*
- Cost: due to the technology involved in manufacturing Intanza<sup>®</sup> it is more expensive than Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup>

In Australia, only 19% of healthy adults are vaccinated annually<sup>2</sup>. Of those who are not vaccinated, 28%<sup>3</sup> choose to not receive a vaccination due to a fear of needles. Intanza<sup>®</sup> is an ideal choice for people who have a needle phobia. Providing it as an option this flu season, may help increase influenza vaccination uptake and protection in your workplace.

More information on Intanza<sup>®</sup> can be found at [www.intradermalflu.com.au](http://www.intradermalflu.com.au) or by speaking with your Vaccination Coordinator.

Please note that the above website contains content aimed at persons with a medical background - simply type any number into the login space for access to the website.

\* Persons outside the age of 18 to 59, who would like to receive a flu vaccination, must have Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup> in 2010.

### References:

1. Intanza approved product information 9mcg. Sanofi Pasteur. 2009.
2. Newall AT, et al. Economic Report into the Cost of Influenza to the Australian Health System. March 2007.
3. Influenza Specialist Group report 2008. Influenza and Influenza vaccination – saving lives by dispelling common myths among at-risk Australians aged 18 – 64 years. Accessed 13/10/09 on [www.influenzaspecialistgroup.org.au](http://www.influenzaspecialistgroup.org.au).