



## **T**HE SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION IS RECOMMENDED FOR:

### **A)** Persons with an increased risk of complications of influenza.

(For this group, the cost of the vaccination is covered by the compulsory health insurance, provided that the deductible rate (franchise) has already been reached).

These are:

- Persons aged 65 and over;
- Pregnant women and women who have given birth in the last 4 weeks;
- Premature babies (born before the 33rd week (< 32 0/7 of GA) or with a birth weight of less than 1500 g) from the age of 6 months for the first two winters after birth\*;
- Persons (from the age of 6 months) with one of the following chronic conditions: heart disease; lung disease (e.g. bronchial asthma); metabolic disorders affecting heart, lung or kidney function (e.g. diabetes or morbid obesity, BMI  $\geq 40$ ); neurological (e.g. M. Parkinson's disease, cerebrovascular disease) or musculoskeletal disease affecting heart, lung or kidney function; hepatopathy; renal failure; asplenia or spleen dysfunction (including haemoglobinopathies); immunodeficiency (e.g. HIV infection, cancer, immunosuppressive therapy)\*/\*\*;
- Persons living in nursing homes for elderly people and in institutions for people with chronic diseases.

### **B)** Persons who have regular contact within their family or as part of their private or professional activities\*\*\* with:

- Persons in category A);
- Infants under 6 months of age (these have an increased risk of complications and cannot be vaccinated due to their young age).

The flu vaccination is particularly recommended for all health care professionals, all persons working in the paramedical field, staff of crèches, day nurseries, day-care centres, nursing homes for the elderly, as well as institutions for persons with chronic illnesses, including students, interns and trainees.

Seasonal flu vaccination can also be considered for all persons who wish to reduce their risk of influenza illness for private and/or professional reasons.

\* *For children aged between 6 months and 8 years who have never been vaccinated against influenza before, the administration of two doses (4 weeks apart) is recommended. Children under three years of age receive (each time) half a dose if Fluarix Tetra® is used, or (each time) a full dose if Vaxigrip Tetra® is used.*

\*\* *Depending on the type and severity of the immunodeficiency, two doses (at intervals of 4 weeks) may be administered.*

\*\*\* *"Regular contacts" of category B) include children and adults between 6 months and 64 years of age. In the case of occupational vaccination indication, the costs of the vaccination are usually covered by the employer..*