

## **Talking points for cancer patients for Influenza, COVID-19 and RSV vaccines**

**September 27, 2023**

- Vaccines are one of the best ways to prevent illness during respiratory virus season.
- It's important to get vaccinated to keep yourself, loved ones and your community healthy.

### **Flu:**

- We recommend that all cancer patients get vaccinated against flu.
- Fred Hutch will begin offering flu vaccines to patients and their caregivers on October 2.
- Flu vaccines are available for patients at any Fred Hutch clinic. You will be offered the vaccine when you check in at an upcoming visit.

### **COVID-19:**

- Fred Hutch recommends that patients get the updated COVID-19 vaccine to protect against potentially serious effects of COVID-19 illness.
- The virus that causes COVID-19 is always changing. Getting an updated COVID-19 vaccine can restore protection and provide protection against the new variants.
- We anticipate that COVID-19 vaccines will be available to patients in our clinic in South Lake Union in October, and we will share more information as it becomes available. COVID vaccine will also be available at local pharmacies.

### **RSV:**

- Earlier this year, the FDA approved two vaccines, from GSK and Pfizer, for the prevention of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) for individuals aged 60 years and older. The vaccine may be offered to those aged 60 and over who have risk factors for severe disease using shared clinical decision-making. (Staff: Please refer to RSV Vaccine Provider Fact Sheet and FAQ.)
- The effectiveness of RSV vaccines in cancer and transplant patients has not been studied.
- RSV vaccine will be available at local pharmacies.