The WTC Health Program encourages all members to receive the flu vaccine this year. Each year, research indicates which types of flu (known as strains) will be most common during the upcoming flu season, and a vaccine is developed to protect against those strains.

This year, during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is extra important to protect yourself and your loved ones against the flu by getting the vaccine. Both flu vaccines (flu shot and nasal spray) are covered at no-cost by the WTC Health Program for all members. You do not need a prescription. To learn more about the flu and how to prevent it, visit www.cdc.gov/flu.

**Why you should get a flu vaccine?**

The flu vaccine will protect you from this year’s flu strains and lowers your risk of needing to visit hospitals or doctors’ offices during the flu season.

**How to get your flu vaccine at no-cost through the WTC Health Program?**

Due to social distancing precautions, space is very limited at our Mount Sinai CCE offices. We are therefore encouraging **ALL** Mount Sinai CCE responders to obtain their flu shots at their local pharmacies. Follow the steps below to obtain a flu shot covered by the WTC Health Program at your local pharmacy:

1. **Call the pharmacy where you obtain your WTC medications** ahead of time to check if flu vaccines are available and to schedule a vaccination.

2. Over the phone, provide the pharmacist with your Optum information or your WTC Health Program 911 number located on your pharmacy card.

3. Let the pharmacy know they will need to call Optum (1-855-640-0005) to process the claim.

**NOTE: The flu vaccine is sometimes not recommended for those with specific health conditions or for those going through specific types of treatment. Follow the recommendation of your primary care doctor or your WTC Health Program medical provider.**