

INTRO:

A RETURN TO SCHOOL COMES WITH A RETURN TO ACTIVITIES.
BUT NO MATTER IF IT'S FALL SPORTS... EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES... OR JUST HANGING OUT WITH
FRIENDS... THERE COMES THE INCREASE SPREAD OF VIRUSES.

TAKE VO

DR. DOUG KASPER – AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE SPECIALIST WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – SAYS THE THREE MAIN
VIRUSES REMAIN THE SAME AS THE PAST FEW YEARS. THAT'S INFLUENZA... OR THE FLU... COVID-19... AND
R-S-V. BUT OTHERS WILL ARISE AS WELL. YOU MAY HEAR ABOUT ADENOVIRUS... RHINOVIRUS – WHICH IS
THE COMMON COLD... OR OTHERS.

AS MILLIONS OF KIDS ARE NOW RETURNING TO SCHOOL... DR. KASPER SAYS THE BEST PREVENTATIVE
MEASURES YOU CAN TAKE... ARE SPEAKING WITH YOUR CHILD'S PEDIATRICIAN AND SCHEDULING FALL
IMMUNIZATIONS BEFORE VIRUSES START CIRCULATING.

TAKE SOT

"Influenza in Central Illinois starts to appear around November, and peaks in January," Dr. Kasper says. "RSV,
particularly in young children, starts to show up in September or October. COVID-19 has been a bit more
seasonal each year, but we start to predict peaks in October. What you'll notice is that all of those will start to
overlap."

VO TAG

DR. KASPER SAYS THE MAIN POINT OF VACCINATIONS NOW – IS TO KEEP PEOPLE IN THEIR ACTIVITIES...
SCHOOL OR JOB AS LONG AS POSSIBLE... AND TO DECREASE SPREAD OF THE VIRUSES AT HOME. THE FLU
VACCINE – IS RECOMMENDED FOR ANYONE 6 MONTHS OR OLDER... WHEREAS THE R-S-V VACCINE IS ONLY
AVAILABLE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN OR THOSE 60 AND OLDER. DR. KASPER EXPECTS AN UPDATED COVID-
19 VACCINE TO BECOME AVAILABLE THIS FALL.