Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine is the only recombinant protein-based influenza vaccine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine is approved for use in persons 18 years of age and older.

Sanofi Pasteur recently acquired Protein Sciences that developed Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine, using a recombinant DNA technology. This acquisition allows Sanofi Pasteur to offer patients a dual technology platform of traditional egg-based vaccine and vaccine manufactured with recombinant methods (which is non-egg based).

In relation to vaccines, recombinant technology is part of the manufacturing process and is used to rapidly and reliably grow (or propagate) specific parts of the influenza virus that have been identified as key to stimulating immunity against disease. This technology can be used in various kinds of cells (yeast, bacteria, insect, etc.) to potentially improve yields and efficiency.

As adults turn 50 years of age and older, they are more likely to develop chronic medical conditions and are at higher risk of developing flu-related complications.

- 70 percent of adults 50-64 years of age have at least one chronic medical condition and 50 percent have more than one.

In a recent clinical study in adults 50 years of age and older, individuals who received Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine were significantly less likely to get influenza than those who received a quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine.

References:

* rPCR = Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction.

1 Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine [Prescribing Information]. Meriden, CT: Protein Sciences Corporation.

Important Safety Information for Flublok Quadrivalent Vaccine
Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine should not be given to anyone who has had a severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of the vaccine or any component of the vaccine.

Tell your doctor if you have ever experienced Guillain-Barré syndrome (severe muscle weakness) after a previous dose of influenza vaccine. If you notice any other problems or symptoms following vaccination, please contact your health care professional immediately.

The most common side effects to Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine are tenderness and pain at the injection site; headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and joint pain. Other side effects may occur. Vaccination with Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine may not protect all individuals.

Indication for Flublok Quadrivalent Vaccine
Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine is given to people 18 years of age and older to help prevent influenza disease caused by influenza A and B strains contained in the vaccine.

Please see the full Prescribing Information for Flublok Quadrivalent vaccine.

References: