

# PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK FOR DEVELOPING FLU-RELATED COMPLICATIONS

- Adults 65 years of age and older
- People with certain medical conditions like:
  - o Asthma
  - o Chronic lung disease
  - o Heart disease
  - o Weakened immune system
  - o And many other conditions
- Pregnant women
- Children younger than 5

#### **IT'S FLU SEASON!**

The CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine for everyone 6 months and older. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses and prevent flu-related hospitalizations.



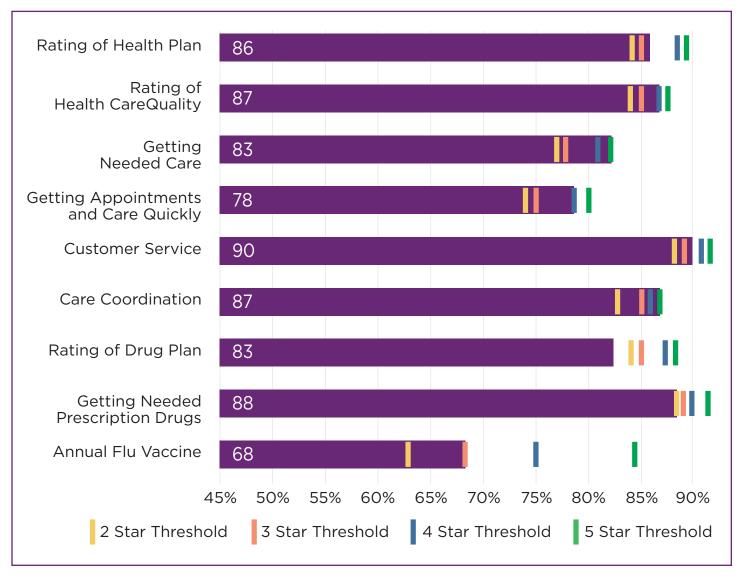


#### **NEW MEMBER PORTAL**

For easier access to the information that you need, use our new member portal by clicking "SIGN IN" in the upper-right corner of CHRISTUShealthplan.org.

## MEDICARE CONSUMER ASSESSMENT OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND SYSTEMS SURVEY (MCAHPS)

The graph presents the 2023 Member Satisfaction Survey summary rates for CHRISTUS Health Plan. These scores are also available online at: CHRISTUShealthplan.org/member-resources.





## WHOLE-WHEAT GINGERBREAD

Enjoy this healthier version of traditional gingerbread that uses whole-wheat for more nutrients! Serve warm with fresh fruit or tea.

#### **GINGER HEALTH FACTS**

- Boosts brain function
- Eases stomach pain
- Fights infections bacteria
- Decreases cholesterol

#### **Prep Time: 95 min Recipe**

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- Canola oil spray
- 1 3/4 cups whole wheat pastry flour
- 1/4 cup light brown sugar
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. ground ginger
- 1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

- 1/4 tsp. ground cloves
- 11/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup dark unsulfured molasses
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 6 Tbsp. canola oil
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 cup boiling water

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat 9-inch square pan with canola oil spray. In a medium bowl, sift together flour, sugar, spices, baking soda and salt.
- 2. In a separate large bowl, whisk together molasses, applesauce, canola oil, and egg until well blended. Add the dry ingredients and stir until well combined. Whisk in boiling water and pour the batter into a prepared baking pan.
- 3. Bake for about 35 minutes, until the cake begins to pull away from the pan and a wooden toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in the pan on a wire rack for 30 minutes. Invert cake onto a platter and cool for about 15 minutes before serving.
- 4. Cut into 9 squares and serve warm. For storage, wrap tightly in foil and keep in the refrigerator for up to 3 days.

Source: Gingerbread - American Institute for Cancer Research (aicr.org)

## IS IT STRESS OR ANXIETY?

Everyone experiences stress from time to time, but what's the difference in stress and anxiety? Stress is the physical or mental response to an external cause, such as having an illness or a change in your job.

What is anxiety? Anxiety is your body's reaction to stress and can occur even if there is no current threat. If that anxiety doesn't go away and begins to interfere with your life, such as keeping you up at night, it could affect your health. More information about anxiety disorders is available at www.nimh.nih. gov/anxietydisorders.

#### WAYS TO COPE WITH STRESS

- Keep a journal.
- Relaxation exercises
- Exercise and eat healthy, regular meals
- Get sound, routine sleep
- Avoid excess caffeine
- Identify and challenge negative or unhelpful thoughts
- Reach out to helpful, trustworthy family and friends

### RECOGNIZE WHEN YOU NEED MORE HELP

If you feel you need additional help, it may be time to talk to your doctor. If you are in immediate distress or feel you may hurt yourself, call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 or chat at 988lifeline.org.

This information is not intended as a medical diagnosis or suggestion of treatment. It cannot take the place of seeing a mental health professional.



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CHRISTUS Health Advantage is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in CHRISTUS Health Advantage depends on contract renewal. CHRISTUS Health Advantage (HMO) Contract #H1189.