

FAB Meeting

Nov. 15, 2006

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Attendees: Sue Schryber, JoAnne Eakins, Cassandra Burke (formerly Dowling), Talat Danish, Gary Kirk, Lori Bologna, Pat Vranesich, Bob Swanson, Stephanie Simmons, Rachel Potter, Rosemary Franklin, Joy Maloney, Judy Williams, Ann Shelton, Sharon Maddox, Carol Romback, Elizabeth Nettleman, Dianne Miller, JoAnn Hyde, Rebecca Blake, Barbara Wolicki, Carolee Besteman, Pat White, Janice Arsenault, Carol Legwand, Dawn Lukomski, Terri Adams, Teri Lee Dyke, Donna Nussdorfer, and Kathy Webster

Conference call: Kim Somervan, Lynn Squanba, MAOP, Jane Naasko, Tara Green, Kroger Pharmacy, Jill Higgins, MOA, Dianne McCagg, Susan Bass, IHA, Stacy Wright, Maxim, Greg McGotta (Magnotta?), D.O., Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians, (?) Wright, Health Systems

TOPIC / Agenda Item	Discussion / Presentation
Welcome & introductions	
Subcommittee updates	<u>Leadership & Deployment</u> The subcommittee has not met.
	<p><u>Education & Communication</u></p> <p>Liz Harton led discussion about the fact that there are some large flu clinics where the flu vaccine recipients are restricted (for example, they may not give flu vaccine to children or to pregnant women). She discussed the need for an educational piece that could possibly be posted at these sites which would educate these vaccine seekers as to where they could go to get flu vaccine, if they are not able to be given flu vaccine at this particular location.</p> <p>Liz presented a flyer which lists who can receive flu vaccine, and where people can go to get the flu vaccine. This flyer will be sent to FAB members with the Nov. 16 Flu Bytes, and FAB is asked to help disseminate this flyer within their organizations. Dianne Miller of Mich. Pharmacists Assoc said that she will help to distribute these flyers to their member pharmacies.</p> <p>Liz said that the Division of Immunization submitted a press release, but the Division was not successful in getting the Department to send out the press release.</p> <p>CDC sent out a press release on 12/13/06 about National Influenza Vaccination Week, which is November 27 through December 3.</p> <p>Liz mentioned that there is an Influenza Vaccination Toolkit that is available on the AMA (National Influenza Vaccine Summit) website.</p> <p>CDC encourages providers to use the CDC Flu Gallery at http://www.cdc.gov/flu/gallery</p>
Flu Vaccine:	Providers are being told that they will receive all of their flu vaccine by Thanksgiving.

<p>Supply & Distribution</p>	<p>Discussion about the flu vaccine supply and distribution issues. Two things are apparent: (1) We will have enough flu vaccine for this flu season; and (2) For the last few years, providers have been receiving their flu vaccine later than they used to. Because of the fact that providers receive their vaccine later, CDC is asking providers to schedule the large flu clinics later (e.g., late October or November). Dr. Weinblatt asked FAB to remind providers about this for next flu season.</p> <p>There was a Kroger ad that was broadcast on the radio which stated that flu shots are 38% more effective if given by such-and-such date.” Much discussion about this ad. Tara Green said that the ads have been pulled off the air. Tara said that Krogers worked with a consultant on these ads. When Krogers asked the consultants to produce the studies [to back up that ad], the consultants were not able to find the studies. At that point, the ads were pulled.</p> <p>Pat V asked Tara to please look into whether Kroger could run a late-season ad, encouraging the public to get vaccinated later in the season if they have not already been vaccinated. Tara said she would look into it.</p>
<p>Media</p> <p>Also a continuation of Supply & Distribution issues</p>	<p>A few FAB members asked if MDCH could do any media. Liz said that the Division of Immunization submitted a press release to our Public Information Officer. The Division of Immunization is requesting that the Department send out a late-season flu vaccine message. Liz indicated that the Division continues to make efforts to release press for winter immunization.</p> <p>Joy Maloney said that FAB should come up with a unified message – Perhaps we could start all the flu clinics in mid- to late-October?</p> <p>Much discussion and concern among FAB committee members about the fact that we will see big retailers (e.g., Meijers, VNA, Kroger, etc) offering flu clinics at the same time that health care providers in the area either don’t have or are just getting their vaccine orders!</p> <p>Liz Harton told the group about the National Flu Vaccine Summit. She said that the supply will be adequate this year. The Flu Vaccine Summit is looking at distribution issues.</p> <p>More discussion about distribution issues; pre-booking vaccines, contracting for vaccines, etc.</p> <p>Lori Bologna said that sanofi will use a new method for pre-booking when they begin taking vaccine orders for NEXT flu season. Lori went into a lot of detail about how their flu vaccine was distributed for this flu season. “All pieces of the pie got some of their order.”</p> <p>Some vaccine orders are sent to wholesale distributors. There is not any transparency in regards to the distributors.</p>

Continuation of Supply & Distribution issues

Discussion about the question of who is served at the large flu clinics at retailers such as Krogers, Meijers, etc.? Mostly adults. Some of these kinds of flu clinics will not give flu vaccine to children, pregnant women, etc. This goes back to some of the notes on page 1, where Liz talked about a flyer that could be posted at these clinics (see page 1).

Discussion about immunizing high-risk patients with flu vaccine. Some FAB members were surprised that certain populations (e.g., pregnant women and other high-risk patients) could not get flu vaccine at those types of flu clinics. Dianne Miller of the MI Pharmacists Association said that this is NOT how she is training pharmacists; she said that she is training them to give the flu vaccine to all the groups for whom it is recommended.

Dr. Barone said that he likes his high-risk children to come to his office because it gives him an opportunity to check on other aspects of the child's health.

Discussion about the fact that sometimes local health depts. (LHDs) schedule flu clinics that conflict with other area retailer flu clinics. There are issues of competition with regards to the flu clinics.

Joy M suggested that partners in various communities come together for planning/communication purposes. Joy brought up the question: Her LHD clinics are giving less flu vaccine. Is that because the public is getting their flu shots at retailers' flu clinics, or is it because the public is simply not getting the flu vaccine at all this year? Is there a way to get this information?

Maxim supplies: Walgreen, CVS, Cosco, Save-more

JoAnn Hyde: Kalamazoo has an adult immunization task force that has been in existence for a few years now. They come together periodically for communication purposes. They all start their flu clinics at around the same time every year.

Judy Williams: We keep talking about "delayed" flu clinics. We should stop using the word "Delayed." That word has a negative connotation. Let's try to stop using that word.

Liz summarized the discussion:

1. First, the group is concerned about distribution issues.
2. Next, the group wants to see better coordination among the stakeholders on the timing of flu clinics.

	<p>Pat V: At the end of this flu season, let's ask for data from all of our partners about how many people were given flu vaccine by each organization.</p>
<p>Media/ Public Message</p>	<p>Becky Blake said that MSMS is going to do a press release about National Influenza Vaccination Week, which is November 27 – December 3. She asked if MDCH could do some media, to piggyback on MSMS's press release.</p> <p>Bob said that the Division of Immunization will contact its Public Information Officer for the Department with that request. Bob suggested that Becky might have more success if she directly contacted the Department with her request.</p> <p>Public Message:</p> <p>There is NO shortage this year. There is enough vaccine. It's not too late to vaccinate. It is acceptable to give flu vaccine through January and into February.</p>
<p>Community Collaborations</p>	<p>Barb Wolicki suggested that perhaps FAB could put together a model of how some different communities have come together (for example, Kalamazoo), the model can show how stakeholders in different communities might be able to work together. Barb said that she could work with Kalamazoo and Detroit LHDs to put together a model.</p>
<p>VFC update</p>	<p>Terri Adams gave an update on the VFC flu vaccine situation. As of this week, the department has received all of its VFC flu vaccine except the multi-dose vials. The Department has received 54% of its multi-dose vials.</p> <p>CDC message to providers:</p> <p>If you have flu vaccine in your office: use it. But, you shouldn't schedule mass flu clinics in early or mid-October.</p>
<p>Surveillance update</p>	<p>Rachel Potter said that there has not been any flu activity in MI yet. Across the U.S., seeing low levels of flu activity so far.</p> <p>North Carolina – some schools were closed because of the fact that up to 15% of the children were out with flu.</p> <p>MI now has 91 sentinels.</p>

<p>HCWs and flu vaccination</p>	<p>Pat V: All FAB members received a couple letters this week, via email. The letters are from HHS and to health care professionals; the letters encourage flu vaccination of health care providers.</p> <p>Joint Commission – lots of people at FAB were asking about the wording of new JCAHO requirements having to do with HCWs getting vaccinated against flu. This wording will be included in the 11/17 Flu Bytes. The new JCAHO requirement becomes effective in 2007. A sample Letter of Declination will be included with FluBytes this week, too.</p>
<p>Misc</p>	<p>Lori Bologna: Late shipment doses begin shipping Dec. 1.</p> <p>Sanofi is going to open a new manufacturing facility in 2008.</p> <p>Question for MedImmune was: when will new presentations of FluMist be produced that can be given to younger children? Ann Shelton said that MedImmune is working on this, but she doesn't know WHEN this will be approved.</p>

If you have any corrections that need to be made to these notes; please email your corrections to [Courtney McFetersC@michigan.gov](mailto:Courtney.McFetersC@michigan.gov)