



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48913

## 2010-2011 INFLUENZA SEASON

### RECENTLY POSTED GUIDANCE MATERIALS

The Medicare Learning Network [posted an article](#) to remind providers about important preventative measures to take in preparation for the 2010-2011 flu season. In the article the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reminds health care professionals that Medicare Part B reimburses health care providers for seasonal flu vaccines and their administration.

The CDC posted a toolkit to help businesses promote seasonal flu vaccination for their employees. [The materials](#), themed "Make it Your Business to Fight the Flu," include checklists, materials for promoting at-work vaccination clinics, resources to help guide employees to community vaccination sites, and information about disease prevention. The CDC says the top strategies employers can use to prevent flu this season are to host a flu vaccine clinic or to make sure employees know where to get the vaccine in the community.

### FLU UPDATES - IN THE NEWS

[H3N2 a player in early Northern Hemisphere flu season](#)

[Many Americans Plan to Skip Flu Shot This Year](#)

[Maine: Governor Signs Executive Order to Support School-Based Flu Vaccination Clinics](#)

[BARDA Funds Year-Round Egg Supply for Pandemic Flu Vaccine](#)

FluBytes is distributed to MDCH flu partners for informational and communication purposes. Please feel free to distribute widely. Archived editions of FluBytes can be found [here](#). To access archived editions of MI FluFocus click [here](#).

## 2009 H1N1

An article entitled "[Inside the Outbreak of the 2009 Influenza A \(H1N1\)v Virus in Mexico](#)" was published in the latest edition of *PloS One*. Researchers found that in the initial stages of the influenza A (H1N1) virus outbreak, the majority of infected patients taking part in this study lived in highly populated areas of Mexico City and most of them developed mild to moderate respiratory symptoms affecting predominately young people. A mass gathering took place in Mexico (the Iztapalapa Play Passion) and they postulate that it may have contributed to the spread of the novel virus. The researchers also report that Mexico saw three waves of cases in 2009: in April and May, in June and July, and from September to December. In contrast, the pandemic in the United States had two major waves, in the spring and fall of 2009.

## FLU RESOURCES

If you missed the HHS webinar *Pregnant Women and the Upcoming Flu Season* the webinar will be archived [here](#).

Be sure to check out the Immunization Action Coalition's video of the week: [Mandating Influenza Vaccination: One Hospital's Experience](#). This video features Dr. Paul A. Offit, of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), talking about the highly successful experience CHOP had last year when it instituted a mandatory employee influenza vaccination requirement.

Currently flu materials are being updated for the 2010-11 influenza season. Stay up-to-date with:  
MDCH: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)  
CDC: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)  
HHS: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)