



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

Recommendations for the Use of Influenza Vaccines: 2010-2011 Season

On March 2, 2010, [ACIP posted provisional](#) recommendations for 2010-11 influenza vaccines:

- All people age 6 months and older are now recommended to receive annual influenza vaccination.
- A higher dose formulation of an inactivated seasonal influenza vaccine (Fluzone High-Dose, by sanofi pasteur, licensed Dec 23) for use in people age 65 years and older will be available. The ACIP has not expressed a preference for Fluzone High-Dose or any other licensed inactivated influenza vaccine for use in people age 65 and older.
- An additional inactivated vaccine (Agriflu, manufactured by Novartis, licensed by FDA on November 27, 2009) will be available.
- Age indications for two inactivated influenza vaccines have changed. Afluria, manufactured by CSL Vaccines, is now licensed for use in people age 6 months and older. Fluarix, manufactured by GSK Biologicals, is now licensed for use in people age 3 years and older.

Related News Articles:

CIDRAP: [ACIP silent on high-dose flu vaccine for elderly](#)

VACCINE SAFETY

The recent edition of *Pediatrics* features an article by University of Michigan researchers: "[Parental Vaccine Safety Concerns in 2009.](#)" Although parents overwhelmingly share the belief that vaccines are a good way to protect their children from disease, these same parents express concerns regarding the potential adverse effects and especially seem to question the safety of newer vaccines.

Children with Egg Allergies

Most children with egg allergies can safely receive influenza vaccine, [researchers reported](#) on Feb 28 at a meeting of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI). They reviewed the charts of 150 children with egg allergies who had received at least one flu shot and found only 7 had an adverse reaction. Most were mild, and 5 resolved spontaneously.

EPIDEMIOLOGY- 2009 H1N1

Journal Articles

A genetic study in [PLoS Currents](#) looking at pandemic H1N1 viruses suggests that several H1N1 clades circulated early in the epidemic but that one clade (clade 7) replaced the others and has predominated through most of the pandemic. The authors concluded, however, that it's not clear whether the shift to a single-clade pattern had a clinical impact or gave the virus a transmissibility advantage.

EPIDEMIOLOGY- 2009 H1N1 CONTINUED

In a study in [PLoS One](#), the Department of Veterans Affairs reported that it effectively used an electronic biosurveillance system for tracking and monitoring influenza trends. The system effectively tracked trends for seasonal flu as well as the rise in cases at the start of the H1N1 pandemic. The authors said it could serve as an important alerting tool.

INFLUENZA & VACCINES - IN THE NEWS

On March 2, the [FDA released final guidance](#) to help manufacturers who are developing cell-based viral vaccines to address emerging and pandemic threats, such as pandemic influenza. "This final guidance recognizes that a new generation of medical products using innovative methods is needed to ensure we are better prepared today than we were yesterday," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius in a [press release](#). FDA scientists spent more than a decade conducting research for the document and consulting with experts and the public. Cell cultures are already being used in licensed vaccines against diseases such as rubella and polio.

News Articles

[The Flu Season That Fizzled](#)

[H1N1 mutation's proposed link to severe illness debated](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

[2010 National Influenza Vaccine Summit](#) tentatively set for May 17-20, 2010 in Phoenix, Arizona

FLU WEBSITES

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

Nominate someone you know to be a Hometown Health Hero - Deadline is Friday, March 5

There are so many people throughout Michigan who are making a positive impact on their communities. You know these people; they are the ones who volunteer for charity fundraisers, donate a Saturday to help clean up a local park, donate time to help the local food bank, etc. [Nominate](#) someone you know today. It only takes a few moments. Additional info on [Michigan Public Health Week](#).

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](#).