



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

INTERNATIONAL INFLUENZA NEWS

AUSTRALIA UPDATE- SEASONAL FLU VACCINATION

On June 1, Australia's chief medical officer renewed his advice for clinicians to suspend seasonal flu vaccination for healthy children younger than 5 after national investigations confirmed higher-than-expected rates of fever and convulsions.

RELATED ARTICLES:

[Australian flu-vaccine probe confirms increased reactions in small children](#)

[CSL Press Release: Update on Seasonal Influenza Vaccination of Young Children](#)

2009 H1N1 UPDATES

VACCINE SAFETY

To monitor influenza A (H1N1) 2009 monovalent vaccine safety, various federal surveillance systems are being used. Preliminary results reported in this weeks [CDC MMWR](#) compare GBS patients who did and did not receive 2009 H1N1 vaccination; 0.8 excess cases of GBS per 1 million vaccinations were reported, a rate similar to that found with seasonal influenza vaccines.

A [Rand Corp survey](#) published in *Preventive Medicine* comparing vaccine uptake and attitudes on seasonal compared with pandemic flu vaccines revealed that though adults perceived pandemic flu to be more severe, they were less likely be vaccinated against it than seasonal flu. The 3,917 respondents relied on widely varied information sources. Researchers said pandemic flu communications didn't appear to reassure adults about the safety and value of the vaccine.

CHALLENGES FOR NEXT PANDEMIC

An [international committee](#) in *PLoS Medicine* identified six public health policy challenges that it anticipates will continue for the next 12 to 18 months and will help shape and improve preparation for the next pandemic.

Recent Influenza News Articles

[WHO says H1N1 flu pandemic continues](#)

[Age profile of H1N1 cases sparks discussion of 'original antigenic sin'](#)

[President's advisory group looks to speed up flu vaccine](#)

[Study helps explain spread of drug resistance in seasonal H1N1 flu](#)

[Mandatory Flu Shots Gain Traction as the Future of Influenza Prevention](#)

LATEST INFLUENZA JOURNAL ARTICLES

INFLUENZA VACCINE DEVELOPMENT IN THE UK

In a head-to-head test of two seasonal influenza vaccine strategies to boost immune response in elderly patients, an intradermal version was as effective as an intramuscular vaccine with an immune-boosting adjuvant on most measures, researchers reported in [BMC Infectious Diseases](#).

In a study published in the *British Medical Journal* of the [two vaccines used in Britain](#) during the pandemic, the split-virion version with an immune-boosting adjuvant produced a stronger immune response in children than did the whole-virion vaccine.

GLOBAL MIGRATION PATTERNS OF INFLUENZA

In a study published in [PLoS Pathogens](#), researchers from the University of Michigan and Florida State University looked at the global migration patterns of influenza viruses from 1998 to 2009. The results of the study found that the USA acts as the primary hub of temperate transmission and, together with China and Southeast Asia, forms the trunk of influenza's evolutionary tree.

VOTE FOR ALANA'S FLU FOUNDATION

Alana's Flu Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit whose mission is to educate the public about the importance of yearly flu vaccinations, is in this month's running for a \$25,000 Pepsi Refresh Grant. Alana's Flu Foundation was created in memory of Alana by her family. Alana, a healthy West Bloomfield kindergartener, was only 5 ½ when she died of influenza in February 2003. If awarded the grant the foundation will provide "FREE" flu vaccines to un/under-insured children. Click [here](#) for more information and to vote. You can vote once a day, everyday until June 30. Only the top 10 ideas receive funding.

FLU RESOURCES & WEBSITES

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION NEWS

[American Academy of Pediatrics Says Immunizations Should Be Pushed More Aggressively](#)

[Vaccines and autism: A nasty rash](#)

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