

FLUBYTES



September 17, 2010

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

2010-2011 INFLUENZA SEASON

FLU VACCINE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the March of Dimes, and eight medical groups sent a letter to thousands of healthcare providers to encourage them to tell pregnant and postpartum patients to receive a seasonal flu vaccine. [The letter](#) lists several reasons, including that pregnant women typically suffer more serious illness when infected, that flu may lead to premature labor, and that the vaccine also protects infants when administered to their mothers. The letter, signed by the American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, and other groups, also details the safety of the flu vaccine.

INFLUENZA VACCINE UPDATES FOR 2010-2011

The following guidance documents were posted on the CDC website this week:

- CDC will be posting weekly total number of seasonal influenza vaccine doses distributed on their [website](#).
- [Prevention Strategies for Seasonal Influenza in Healthcare Settings](#) (September 16, 2010)
- [What You Should Know About Flu Antiviral Drugs](#) (September 15, 2010)
- [Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Safety: A Summary for Clinicians](#) (September 13, 2010)

Additional updates can be found on the "[What's New on this Site](#)" page.

SEASONAL FLU JOURNAL ARTICLES AND ABSTRACTS:

- American Academy of Pediatrics: [Policy Statement—Recommendation for Mandatory Influenza Immunization of All Health Care Personnel](#)
- [Quantifying Benefits and Risks of Vaccinating Australian Children Aged 6 months to 4 Years with Trivalent Inactivated Seasonal Flu Vaccine in 2010](#)
- [Social Network Sensors for Early Detection of Contagious Outbreaks](#)

SEASONAL FLU JOURNAL ARTICLES CONT.

Starting in 2010, healthy adults age 19-49 will be recommended for annual influenza vaccination. Because they were not previously targeted, little is known about their vaccine-related attitudes and behaviors. Using nationally representative survey data from 2009 to 2010, researchers in [Vaccine](#) found that adults newly recommended for influenza vaccination (as compared to previously recommended groups) are less likely to believe flu vaccines are safe (44% vs. 63%), to have ever been vaccinated (36% vs. 64%), to be vaccinated following a healthcare provider recommendation (44% vs. 52%), and to visit a doctor's office during vaccination season (41% vs. 69%). To boost rates of influenza vaccination in this population, new and untraditional strategies aimed at encouraging first-time vaccination are needed.

FLU UPDATES - IN THE NEWS

[Sanofi Offers Flu Vaccine with Short, Thin Needle](#)

Sanofi has submitted an application with the FDA for Fluzone Intradermal Vaccine which contains a needle that is 1.5 mm and the vaccine uses one-fifth the usual amount of antigen.

2009 H1N1 JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [Pandemic \(H1N1\) 2009 and Seasonal Influenza A \(H1N1\) Co-infection, New Zealand, 2009](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Alana's Flu Foundation is partnering with The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan once again this year to offer seasonal flu clinics in SE Michigan. The clinic schedule can be found [here](#).

Currently flu materials are being updated for the 2010-11 influenza season. Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION NEWS

Registration is still open for MDCH Fall

Conferences. Details are posted on the [registration website](#).

IN THE NEWS

[More Evidence That Vaccines Don't Cause Autism](#)

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