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FLUZONE VACCINE SAFETY UPDATE

Yesterday we received a notice in relation to an ongoing investigation of reports of febrile seizures following 2010-11 trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (TIV) in young children. [FDA issued a brief communication](#) on the FDA VAERS website. CDC and FDA are currently conducting studies to further assess this situation. Recommendations for the use of influenza vaccine in children have not changed.

Related News Article:

[US probing seizures reported after Sanofi flu shot](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

School Closures and Student Contact Patterns

An article was published in the [Emerging Infectious Diseases](#) Journal exploring how school closure for pandemic (H1N1) 2009 affected students' contact patterns. The study was a retrospective questionnaire survey at a UK school 2 weeks after the school reopened. School closure was associated with a 65% reduction in the mean total number of contacts for each student.

Convalescent Plasma Treatment Reduced Mortality in Patients With Severe Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) 2009 Virus Infection

In a study published in [Clinical Infectious Diseases \(CID\)](#), the authors recruited 93 critically ill H1N1 patients, of whom 20 agreed to receive the plasma treatment while the rest served as controls. The death rate in those who received the plasma was 20%, versus about 55% in those who didn't receive it.

Related News Article:

CIDRAP: [Plasma from former H1N1 patients saved lives](#)

ILI During the Pandemic

CDC published the following MMWR yesterday:

[Self-Reported Influenza-Like Illness During the 2009 H1N1 Influenza Pandemic --- United States, September 2009--March 2010](#). The average monthly percentage of adults reporting an ILI in the preceding 30 days was 8.1% for adults and 28.4% for children. The highest rates were reported in November interviews: 9.5% for adults and 35.9% for children. The levels declined with age, from 32.7% for children under 5 to 3.2% in adults 65 and older. Compared with rates in whites, rates were significantly higher in American Indians and Alaska natives and significantly lower among blacks. The surveys showed that 40% of adults and 56% of children with an ILI sought medical care.

NEWS ARTICLES

[Flu Season Looks Normal This Year, Experts Say](#)

[GSK tests intravenous flu drug vs Roche's Tamiflu](#)

[H1N1 Flu Is Raging in Britain; Could U.S. Be Next?](#)

[Researchers observe zanamivir advantages in kids' flu](#)

FLU RESOURCES

On January 27 & 28, 2010 you can watch the Infectious Diseases Society of America's Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza Conference live via webcast. To register and for more information, visit: <http://www.idsalive.com>

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION NEWS

[The Age-Old Struggle against the Antivaccinationists](#)

[Chan warns about anti-vaccine views as WHO board meets](#)

[Shots or not? Some parents balk as health officials turn up heat for vaccinations](#)

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