



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, Michigan 48909

SEASONAL FLU

New CMS Proposal

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) posted [a proposal](#) April 29, which would require certain Medicare and Medicaid providers and suppliers to offer all patients an annual influenza vaccination, unless medically contraindicated or unless the patient or patient's representative or surrogate declined vaccination. This proposed rule is intended to increase access to flu vaccine, reduce flu-related sickness and deaths, and help reduce healthcare disparities. The proposal would affect about 16,700 hospitals, rural health clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and kidney dialysis centers, according to the draft *Federal Register* notice.

Related News Articles:

- [CMS Proposes To Expand Access To Seasonal Influenza Immunization](#)
- [US may require Medicare-certified hospitals to offer flu shots](#)

Flu Vaccine Appears Safe After Kidney Transplant

Flu vaccination is safe for kidney transplant patients and lowers their risk of organ loss and death, a [new study says](#). In this new study, researchers analyzed Medicare data about flu vaccination and flu cases in 51,730 adults who received a kidney transplant between January 2000 and July 2006 and were followed until October 2006. Of those patients, 18.7 percent received a flu vaccination in the first year after their transplant. These patients were 23 percent less likely to suffer organ loss and 18 percent less likely to die during the study period than patients who didn't receive a flu vaccination, the researchers found.

Flu Surveillance

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) [situation report](#)

Travelers

CDC Influenza Prevention: [Information for Travelers](#)

Seasonal Flu News Articles

[Paul Offit on the Dangers of the Anti-Vaccine Movement](#)

[Smoke-exposed children with flu more likely to need ICU care](#)

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

The journal *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* [published a retrospective outbreak](#) investigation of pandemic 2009 H1N1 influenza at a Chicago hospital which found that a quarter of healthcare personnel (HCP) tested were infected, and that 65% of the infected HCP had healthcare-associated cases. Of the 76 HCP tested at the hospital, 20 (26%) had confirmed 2009 H1N1 flu, and 13 (65%) of them contracted the virus while working, in most cases getting it from coworkers. Eleven (55%) of the 20 worked for a day or more after symptom onset, which led the researchers to conclude, "Personnel working with mild illness may have contributed to transmission among HCP."

Journal Abstracts

- [The Use of Twitter to Track Levels of Disease Activity and Public Concern in the U.S. during the Influenza A H1N1 Pandemic](#)
- [A Reassortment-incompetent Live Attenuated Influenza Virus Vaccine for Protection against Pandemic Virus Strains](#)
- [Mutation Analysis of 2009 Pandemic Influenza A\(H1N1\) Viruses Collected in Japan during the Peak Phase of the Pandemic](#)

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION NEWS

The April 2011 issue of *Vaccinate Adults* is now online for downloading at <http://www.immunize.org/va/va31.pdf>. This issue focuses on the newly published 2011 U.S. immunization schedule for adults and on recently released ACIP recommendations.

News Articles

[US on track for most measles in decade: cases in 4 states, most linked to Africa, Europe, Asia](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

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CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov or www.vaccines.gov

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