SEASONAL FLU
MDCH's Michigan Influenza Season Summary for the 2010-2011 influenza season is included with this edition of FluBytes.

2011-12 Flu Season
Influenza Vaccine for the 2011-12 season is currently being distributed to vaccination locations.

Flu Vaccine Safety
South Korean researchers published a 7 year flu vaccine safety study in the current edition Vaccine. They found that after administering 75 million doses of influenza vaccine from 2003 through 2010, only 42 potentially serious adverse events, or roughly 1 per 1.8 million doses were identified. Of those events, 26 (62%) were causally associated with flu vaccine, which lowers the rate to 1 event per 2.9 million doses. The events included 9 cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome, 18 other neurologic events, 8 injection-site events, and 7 other events. Annual incidence of potentially serious events ranged from 0.006 to 0.07 cases per 100,000 doses.

Flu Vaccine Research
Vaccine published an article on Protein Sciences Corporation's insect-cell-based influenza vaccine FluBlok. The vaccine was found safe and immunogenic in a phase 3 clinical trial involving more than 4,000 healthy adults ages 18 to 49. The authors conclude, "FluBlok induced serum HAI antibody responses to all three vaccine components in the majority of recipients, and the lower limit of the 95% confidence interval for response rate exceeded the [Food and Drug Administration] criteria for licensure for all three components (lower limit of the 95% confidence interval for response rate >40% and lower limit of the 95% confidence interval for HAI titer of 1:40 or greater >70%)."

Flu Journal Articles
- Comparability of Different Methods for Estimating Influenza Infection Rates Over a Single Epidemic Wave
- Cost-effectiveness and socio-economic aspects of childhood influenza vaccination

Avian Influenza
Yesterday Eurosurveillance published “Avian influenza A(H5N1) in humans: new insights from a line list of World Health Organization confirmed cases, September 2006 to August 2010.” The study reported that the 235 confirmed AI cases from September 2006 to August 2010 had a case fatality rate of 56% (132/235), ranging from 28% (27/98) in Egypt to 87% (71/82) in Indonesia.

Flu Resources
Stay up-to-date with:
- MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu
- CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu
- HHS: www.flu.gov or www.vaccines.gov

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION

Vaccine Hesitancy
An article in The Lancet was recently published: “Addressing the Vaccine Confidence Gap.” The author’s state: “scientific evidence of a vaccine's efficacy and safety profile alone is insufficient to gain and sustain the public's trust in vaccines.”

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