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FLU ACTIVITY INCREASING IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

Flu detections are increasing in some [Northern Hemisphere countries](#), but so far levels haven't exceeded seasonal thresholds. Last week [flu activity](#) throughout the US increased, most notably in the southern states. In Michigan, flu activity has been sporadic so far this season. However, reports of [laboratory-confirmed](#) flu cases have been documented from across the state and are starting to increase. This serves as a reminder that people who have not already received a flu vaccine should do so now.

Related News Articles: [Flu cases skyrocketing across Central Florida, state](#)

FDA APPROVES FIRST CELL-BASED FLU VACCINE

On November 20, 2012 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [approved](#) the first cell-based vaccine, Flucelvax, produced by Novartis. Flucelvax is [approved](#) to prevent seasonal influenza in people ages 18 years and older.

Related News Articles

- [FDA clears first cell-based flu vaccine](#)
- [1st Flu Vaccine From Cell Culture Wins FDA Nod](#)
- [FDA Approves First Cell Culture Flu Vaccine](#)
- [Is the newly FDA approved influenza vaccine the game-changer we need?](#)

INFLUENZA RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

A [new study](#) in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) paper details a system that adapts techniques used in modern weather prediction to turn real-time, Web-based estimates of influenza infection into local forecasts of seasonal flu.

[Cloudy with a chance of flu? Study offers influenza forecast](#)

Influenza Vaccine Development

In a [recent study](#), scientists used synthetic messenger RNA (mRNA) instead of proteins purified from viruses to show they can protect mice, ferrets, and pigs against influenza.

Related News Article: [Making a Flu Vaccine Without the Virus](#)

In the journal *Science*, scientists describe a major advance in understanding how flu viruses replicate within infected cells. The [researchers](#) used cutting-edge molecular biology and electron-microscopy techniques to "see" one of influenza's essential protein complexes in unprecedented detail. \

Related News Article: [Scientists describe elusive replication machinery of flu viruses](#)

INFLUENZA NEWS ARTICLES

- [Nurses can help improve vaccination rates: study](#)
- [Getting a Better Grasp on Flu Fundamentals](#)

DECEMBER 2-8 IS NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK (NIVW)

CDC offers many resources to help spread the word about the importance of influenza vaccination in 2012-13 including:

- Resources specific to [NIVW 2012](#) (print materials, a press kit for media outlets, web tools, etc.)
- Information for [CDC's flu prevention partners](#) (includes web content syndication and subscription services; videos, public service announcements, and podcasts; web buttons, e-cards, and badges; and more)
- Resources to help [decrease disparities in vaccination coverage](#) among various populations (e.g., among American Indian and Alaska Native populations)
- [Free downloadable materials](#) (includes flu-related mobile content [e.g., mobile web, mobile apps], web tools, print resources, video/audio tools, and more)
- You can share what you have planned for NIVW [here](#).

FLU VACCINES REQUIRED TO BE ENTERED INTO MCIR

As a reminder, providers are required to report ALL immunizations, including flu, administered to every child born after December 31, 1993 and less than 20 years of age within 72 hours of administration into the [Michigan Care Improvement Registry \(MCIR\)](#). Please ensure you are entering your doses for adults as well!

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

Check out the [MDCH Flu Gallery](#) for posters you can use this flu season. An example of a flu poster to reach pregnant women is included on page 2.

CDC iPad App for Clinicians Now Available

The CDC Influenza application for health care professionals makes it easier than ever to find CDC's latest recommendations and influenza activity updates on your [iPad](#).

FluBytes is distributed to MDCH flu partners for informational and communication purposes. Please feel free to distribute widely. Archived editions of FluBytes can be found [here](#). To access archived editions of MI FluFocus click [here](#).

I got my flu vaccine. Have you got yours?

Got Flu Vaccine?



We've Got Ours.

Talk to us about getting flu vaccine
for yourself and your family.

