



FLU UPDATES

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO VACCINATE

Be sure to pass on the message that it's not too late to vaccinate against influenza. Flu season is just beginning in the United States and the season may not peak until February or March. The following resources are available to help promote this message:

- CDC: [Vaccinate Against Flu: It's Not Too Late!](#)
- [Prevent the Flu Videos from Minnesota](#)
- [MDCH's Monthly Posters](#)
- [MDCH Press Release \(1/25/12\): Before Flu Season Peaks, Recent Cases Prove Ideal Time to Vaccinate](#)

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

There has been media attention on the increase in Mexico's influenza activity in recent weeks. It's not unusual for there to be influenza activity in Mexico at this time as they share the same flu season as the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Key Points (January 27, 2012) in relation to Mexico's flu activity is being distributed with this edition of FluBytes.

Related News Articles:

- [Mexico health sec: H1N1 flu way up after low year](#)
- [H1N1 flu returns to Mexico](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Fatal Influenza B Infections

According [to a new study](#) in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, influenza B infections may be more serious than previously thought. Additionally, the researchers concluded that: "Our findings suggest that bacterial pneumonia and cardiac injury contribute to fatal outcomes after infection with influenza B virus and that the frequency of these manifestations may be age related.

Accompanying editorial: [Fatal Influenza B Infections: Time to Reexamine Influenza Research Priorities](#)

Related CIDRAP article: [Study finds influenza B may be more severe than thought](#)

ADDITIONAL FLU NEWS ARTICLES

Mandatory Vaccinations

- [Colorado wants mandatory flu shots for most hospital and nursing home workers](#)
- [National Business Group on Health: Hospitals, Health Care Facilities Should Require Flu Vaccinations for All of Their Employees](#)

H5N1 STUDY CONTROVERSY

- [U.S. panel defends call to censor bird flu studies](#)
- [Recommendation to censor bird flu research driven by fears of terrorism](#)
- [Battle over H5N1 research continues in media, journals](#)
- [Don't Censor Influenza Research](#)
- [Biosafety Advisory: Efficiently Transmissible Engineered Influenza A H5N1 Viruses](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

MDCH'S MONTHLY FLU POSTERS

February: ["The Holidays May Be Over But Flu Season Is Not."](#)

1st National Immunization Conference Online (NICO)

The 1st NICO, a virtual conference, will take place March 26-28, 2012. Workshops will include multiple presentations and will be one hour in length, and will be recorded. For more information go to the CDC's National Immunization Conference [section](#).

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION NEWS

Adult Immunization

Yesterday CDC published the [2012 Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule](#). The updated recommendations include information on: Tdap vaccination of pregnant women, HPV vaccination of males, hepatitis B vaccine for adults <60 years of age who have diabetes, and more.

CDC also published, ["Adult Vaccination Coverage – United States, 2010."](#) The report provides adult coverage data from the 2010 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) on pneumococcal, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, herpes zoster (shingles), human papillomavirus (HPV) and Tdap by selected characteristics including age, vaccination target group status, and race/ethnicity.

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