

Recommendations for novel H1N1 vaccine

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has [published recommendations on who should receive vaccine against H1N1 novel influenza](#), which is expected to be available in mid-October 2009. The recommendations include health care and emergency medical personnel, pregnant women, parents and caretakers of children younger than 6 months of age, persons between the ages of 6 months through 24 years, and adults age 25 through 64 with chronic health problems. Details are posted: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr58e0821.pdf.

Please check www.michigan.gov/flu and www.cdc.gov/flu for seasonal and 2009 novel H1N1 influenza information.

Recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccine

The ACIP published the [recommendations for the prevention and control of seasonal influenza](#) with vaccines on July 31. Health care personnel should start vaccinating as soon as they receive seasonal flu vaccine.

VIS updated for seasonal influenza vaccine

CDC disseminated the 2009-2010 seasonal influenza Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) on August 11. Both the [Inactivated Influenza Vaccine](#) VIS and the [Live Intranasal Influenza Vaccine](#) VIS are posted on the MDCH Division of Immunization website at www.michigan.gov/immunize. The [Important VIS Facts](#) handout includes additional information about Michigan's VIS. The new influenza VIS are for seasonal flu only. Novel H1N1 influenza patient educational materials will be sent out when more information becomes available.

School and college H1N1 guidelines

MDCH and the Michigan Department of Education are recommending use of the [National School Dismissal Reporting System](#) for public and non-public K-12 school dismissals related to novel H1N1 influenza in the 2009-2010 year. Further Michigan-specific communications tools for K-12 preparedness will be provided in the near future. In August, DHHS and USDE released H1N1 guidance for [K-12 schools](#) and [colleges](#). Communications Toolkits are also posted at these websites.

Healthy People 2020 Public Meetings Announced

The U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will conduct public meetings in Kansas City (KS), Philadelphia (PA), and Seattle (WA) on draft objectives for Healthy People 2020 in Oct. and Nov. 2009. Participation is open to the public. Registration is now open. Further information on the public meeting venues and detailed agendas by location will be posted as they are available. Details are posted at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/hp2020/regional>.

Fall Conferences are Filling up Fast

Registration for the Fall Regional Immunization Conferences began on August 18. The registration website is <http://register2009.mihealth.org>. Early registration is encouraged. Most of the conferences are expected to fill up quickly; in fact, a few conferences will probably fill up soon.

Numbers of reported pertussis cases continue to rise

In an August press release, [MDCH reported a rise in pertussis cases](#), reminding parents and doctors of the importance of vaccinating children, teens, and adults against pertussis. Michigan is continuing to see a high level of reported pertussis cases this year. In the first half of 2009, 281 pertussis cases were reported. That compares to 315 cases in 2008, two-thirds of which came in the second half of the year. In 2007, there were 292 pertussis cases reported in Michigan.

The best way to prevent pertussis is through vaccination. Children need DTaP vaccine, while adolescents and adults need to receive Tdap. Ensure your patients – of all ages – are protected against pertussis, in order to halt the spread of this disease in Michigan.

ACIP publishes new polio vaccine recommendations

The ACIP recently updated its polio vaccine recommendations. The new recommendations address potential confusion between the three different combination vaccines containing inactivated poliovirus vaccine, clarify the poliovirus vaccination schedule, and make a new recommendation concerning the use of minimum age and minimum intervals for children who are six months of age and younger. The new recommendations were published in the [August 7 issue of CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#).

Back-to-school checklist for teens includes immunizations

Fall is an ideal time to ensure that your adolescent and pre-adolescent patients are fully immunized. A few newer vaccines have been licensed in the past few years and are now recommended for this age group, along with the previously recommended routine childhood vaccines. New meningococcal and pertussis vaccines are recommended for all older children and adolescents, and the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine is recommended for girls at 11-12 years of age. In addition, [flu vaccine](#) is now recommended on a yearly basis for all children 6 months through 18 years of age.

Ensure your adolescent patients are up-to-date on all their immunizations. To view the recent Adolescent Immunization Webcast (broadcast on June 2, 2009) visit: <http://learning.mihealth.org/mediasite/adolescentwebcast/>

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[Sign up for the IAC Express](#), the free weekly e-mail newsletter published by the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC).

Michigan's Immunization Timely Tips (MITT)

Beginning in July, this new publication replaced the Michigan Immunization Update newsletter. This monthly newsletter will be timelier and shorter than the Michigan Immunization Update. Timely Tips will be emailed to our listservs and posted at www.michigan.gov/immunize, under the Provider Information section.