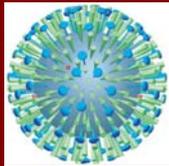


# FLUBYTES



February 20, 2009

Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48913  
For additional flu information visit: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

## Latest Flu News

### FDA ADVISERS SELECT VACCINE STRAINS FOR 2009-2010 FLU SEASON

A Food and Drug Administration advisory panel met and has recommended only a slight change for the northern hemisphere 2009-2010 influenza season from the current 2008-2009 vaccine. The recommendations are as follows:

- an A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus;
- an A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like virus;
- a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus. #

The recommended vaccines for the Type A strains are the same as last season; the Type B strain is slightly different, replacing a Type B/Florida strain with a Type B/Brisbane strain. For more information visit: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123500842581018663.html>

### FLU MESSAGES FOR TEENS

This season's influenza vaccine recommendations were expanded to include all children from 6 months through 18 years of age; however, a new national survey shows that **only 21 percent of teenagers received their flu vaccine this winter!** To get teens talking about flu prevention, singer/songwriter and former *American Idol* finalist Brooke White (who came down with the flu last year on the show) has partnered with infectious diseases specialist, Dr. Harley Rotbart, and The Clorox Company to launch the "*I Don't Want to Miss...*" PSA Contest. For more information on the contest, visit [www.IDontWanttoMiss.com](http://www.IDontWanttoMiss.com).

### MICHIGAN DEMONSTRATED IMPRESSIVE PANDEMIC READINESS

The Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (2006) requires each state to meet critical benchmarks and standards in their pandemic preparedness and operational readiness. In January 2009, the federal government released their report to the Homeland Security Council and Michigan achieved an overall score of 71 percent, met or exceeded the national average in twenty-four out of twenty-five operating objectives, and demonstrated its pandemic operational readiness. For more information visit: <http://www.michigan.gov/minewswire/0,1607,7-136-3452-208946--,00.html>

## Flu News From Other States

### CHILD'S DEATH SPURS RUSH FOR FLU VACCINATIONS

The pediatric death of a 12 year old boy in the Boston area has many parents upset and has sparked an increase in the uptake of flu vaccinations. For more information on the article visit:

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/02/19/childs\\_death\\_spurs\\_rush\\_for\\_flu\\_vaccinations/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/02/19/childs_death_spurs_rush_for_flu_vaccinations/)

## Flu Surveillance Update

Flu activity has continued to rise throughout Michigan, with activity level remaining at "regional" for the week ending February 14, 2009. MDCH labs confirmed 16 influenza cases this week, bringing the season total to 126: 36 influenza Bs and 90 influenza As (87 A/H1N1s). Sentinel sites reported that the proportion of visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) increased to 2.8% overall. Increase in flu activity has also been observed across the United States, with 32 states reporting regional or widespread influenza activity.

For additional surveillance information, the MI Flu Focus is archived on [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu) and the most current edition is included in this email. To find out about influenza activity in the U.S., visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>

## Flu Resources

Access the following links for up-to-date resources:

Michigan's influenza web page: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

- Seasonal, Pandemic and Avian influenza
- Flu Advisory Board
- Information for Healthcare professionals, community vaccinators, clinical laboratories, families, and businesses

Flu Fighter Action Kit for Health Care Personnel  
[www.michigan.gov/flufighterkit](http://www.michigan.gov/flufighterkit)

CDC influenza web page: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

MDCH would like to extend an invite for any interested health care professional to become involved in the Flu Advisory Board (FAB). To join FAB, contact Liz Harton, CDC Public Health Advisor at [hartone@michigan.gov](mailto:hartone@michigan.gov).

FluBytes is distributed to MDCH flu partners for informational and communication purposes. Please feel free to distribute widely. An archived list of past FluBytes issues can be found at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940\\_2955\\_22779-125027--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940_2955_22779-125027--,00.html)