



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48913

FLU JOURNAL ARTICLES

ANTIVIRALS

An article published in [PLoS Medicine](#) concluded that “in adults with seasonal influenza A mainly H3N2 virus infection, the oseltamivir-zanamivir combination appeared less effective than oseltamivir monotherapy, and not significantly more effective than zanamivir monotherapy.” They also stated, “oseltamivir should be the recommended primary anti-influenza treatment during influenza seasons with predominant H3N2 viruses naturally susceptible to oseltamivir.”

H1N1 VACCINATION RATES

In a [new study performed](#) by the Georgia Institute of Technology in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), researchers examined factors that may have contributed to the striking state-by-state variation in U.S. H1N1 flu vaccination rates. One finding noted by the researchers was that “an increase in health-seeking behavior may increase vaccination rates during a pandemic...if we could encourage more adults to be vaccinated against flu each year, we might have more success in protecting them from the next pandemic.” Researchers also found that states with a higher percentage of children showed lower vaccination coverage in children aged six months to 17 years. In response to this finding, researchers stated, “accounting for the relative size of a state’s child population in allocating vaccine could improve vaccination coverage of children, in a scenario where children are targeted, especially if children of some ages require two doses of the vaccine.”

FLU MUTATIONS

A new study, “All that Glitters is not Gold - Founder Effects Complicate Associations of Flu Mutations to Disease Severity” was published in [Virology](#).

EGG ALLERGIES

The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology recently [released a report](#) stating that recent studies show that most egg allergic individuals can receive the flu vaccine safely under appropriate care.

SCHOOL FLU CLINICS

A recent study published in the [Journal of Infectious Diseases](#) suggests that school-based flu vaccines that target children with inhaled flu vaccine can head off infections and provide herd immunity even during seasons when circulating flu strains don't match the vaccine strains. The study authors also suggest that their results highlight the value of immunizing school children as a means of dampening the spread of flu in a community.

NEWS ARTICLES

[IOM report airs lessons of H1N1 vaccination campaign](#)

The Institute of Medicine has issued a workshop summary of observations and suggestions from participants in three public meetings held earlier this year on the pandemic H1N1 vaccination campaign.

[Flu clinic offers shots on the run](#)

FLU RESOURCES

CDC recently posted [resources for the 2010-11](#) influenza season that can be used for placement in local newspapers, magazines, or other publications. Articles targeting specific audiences such as pregnant women, people with high-risk conditions, health care workers, and seniors are available, as well as more general articles that can be applied to all audiences, which reflect the new universal vaccination recommendation for everyone 6 months of age and older to get a flu vaccine this year.

The Maryland Partnership for Prevention (MPP) has created four commercials to dispel common myths about the flu and flu vaccine. These spots can be accessed at: www.immunizemaryland.org

Be sure to check the [Faces of Influenza](#) campaign which offers various ready-to-use tools from the American Lung Association that you can customize for your organization.

Currently flu materials are being updated for the 2010-11 influenza season. Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION NEWS

[Many Higher-Income Parents Forgoing Kids' Vaccinations: Report](#)

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