

# FLUBYTES



March 26, 2010

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

## INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Michigan hospitals will be required to implement the following policies beginning October 1, 2010 as a result of [Bill 722](#), which was signed yesterday:

- A strategic plan for managing supply of the influenza vaccine.
- Procedures for identifying individuals at least 65 years old and, at the hospital's discretion, other patients at risk for influenza complications admitted to the hospital.
- Procedures for offering flu immunization to people at least 65 years old and patients at risk admitted to the hospital for at least 24 hours.
- Procedures for ensuring that individuals receive information regarding risks and benefits.
- A standing order policy approved by the medical director or other appropriate health professional that includes an assessment for medical contraindication to administering the vaccination.
- A system for documenting the influenza vaccination administration (such as MCIR), medical contraindications, patient refusals, and any post vaccination adverse events.

Additional information can be found [here](#).

## 2009 H1N1 - VACCINE UPDATES

This week CDC posted the following guidance:

- [2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine with Long-Dated Expiration: Q&A](#)
- [Changes to the 2009 H1N1 Vaccine and Supply Distribution Effective April 1, 2010](#)

## 2009 H1N1 Vaccine Safety

A recent [CIDRAP article](#) summarizes a CDC conference call with health care practitioners. The article states: "As of mid February, about 86 million Americans had received the pandemic H1N1 vaccine, and so far no worrisome signals have emerged from extensive safety monitoring."

## 2009 H1N1 - THE VIRUS

In a [recent study](#) in the journal *Science Translational Medicine* researchers found that the influenza viruses responsible for the pandemics of 1918 and 2009 share a structural detail that makes both susceptible to neutralization by the same antibodies.

Related NIH press release: [1918 and 2009 Pandemic Influenza Viruses Lack a Sugar Topping](#)

An [additional study](#) published in *PloS Currents*, outlines how researchers from the CDC's influenza division used x-ray crystallography, which allows a 3D view of structure and function, to analyze changes in the hemagglutinin of the pandemic H1N1 virus.

## EPIDEMIOLOGY OF 2009 H1N1

### Pregnant Women

Today's [CDC MMWR](#) describes a study performed by researchers from New York who conducted active and passive surveillance for cases of 2009 H1N1 infection in pregnant women requiring intensive care. The study found that only 2 of 17, one of whom was postpartum, had underlying conditions other than pregnancy.

### Year of Life Lost

A recent article [published online](#) in *PLoS Currents* discusses preliminary estimates of mortality and Years of Life Lost (YLL) associated with the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. The researchers argue that because the H1N1 pandemic cut many young lives short, its real public health impact has been substantially greater than is generally perceived. The report states: "based on US mortality surveillance data, we conclude that the YLL burden of the 2009 pandemic may in fact be as high as for the 1968 pandemic—but that at this time the assessment is still tentative."

### Related News Article:

[Study: In life-years lost, H1N1 pandemic had sizable impact](#)

## CLINICIAN UPDATES - 2009 H1N1

The *British Medical Journal* [recently published](#): "Critical illness due to 2009 A/H1N1 influenza in pregnant and postpartum women: population based cohort study."

The following article was published in the recent edition of *Radiology*: "[H1N1 Influenza: Initial Chest Radiographic Findings in Helping Predict Patient Outcome.](#)"

### Latest News Articles:

[Vitamin D helps fend off flu, asthma attacks: study](#)

[Infrared scanner may speed fever screening in hospitals](#)

## INTERNATIONAL INFLUENZA NEWS

### Recent International News Articles:

[Influenza vaccination coverage of healthcare workers and residents and their determinants in nursing homes for elderly people in France: a cross-sectional survey](#)

[Dozens of Countries to Receive Swine Flu Vaccine](#)

[Influenza in pregnancy -- new Norwegian study](#)

[WHO says H5N1 threat persists](#)

## INFLUENZA & VACCINE UPDATES

### Latest Influenza News Articles

[Swine Flu Hospitalizations Up In Georgia](#)

[NOVAVAX Announces Positive Clinical Results from First Stage of Pivotal Study of 2009 A/H1N1 VLP Pandemic Influenza Vaccine in Mexico](#)

## FLU RESOURCES & WEBSITES

Medline Plus Flu Resources:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/flu.html>

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

[2010 National Influenza Vaccine Summit](#) set for May 17-20, 2010 in Phoenix, Arizona

MDCH: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

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

HHS: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

WHO:

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

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