



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

Influenza in Children

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Influenza Division (NCIRD) and the National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) have developed outreach activities to medical providers to increase awareness about the risk of serious complications, including death, among children with neurologic disorders. These activities include a [Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity \(COCA\)](#) and a [letter to providers](#).

Flu Risks for Cancer Patients and Survivors

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and it's important for cancer patients, survivors, and their families to arm themselves [with flu-fighting knowledge](#). While having cancer does not put you at an increased risk for getting the flu, it does put you at an increased risk of complications if you get the flu.

Influenza Vaccination in Pregnant Women

A special supplemental issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* entitled "[Progress in Overcoming Barriers to Influenza Immunization of Pregnant Women](#)" was published with the September edition of the journal. The goals of presenting the 15 manuscripts was to assess progress in overcoming barriers to pregnant women receiving influenza immunization, and to prioritize the next research and programmatic steps toward the goal of all pregnant women in the United States receiving influenza vaccine annually.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Influenza A viruses survive best at relative humidity (RH) near 100% and lower than 50%, according to a study in *PLoS One*, "[Relationship between Humidity and Influenza A Viability in Droplets and Implications for Influenza's Seasonality](#)."

A Colorado Health System of more than 5,300 employees [increased its influenza](#) vaccination coverage rate among health care workers from 68% in 2009 to 95.5% in 2010 after implementing a mandatory influenza vaccination program.

CDC Updated two of their resources this week:

- [Influenza Vaccination: A Summary for Clinicians](#)
- [2012-2013 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Safety](#)

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

This week the CDC published a report on [influenza surveillance](#) from May 20 through September 22, 2012. The US experienced low levels of seasonal influenza activity overall; however, more seasonal influenza viruses were detected than in the summer months of previous years.

INFLUENZA NEWS ARTICLES

Michigan Articles:

- The University of Michigan Center for the History of Medicine and MPublishing collaborate on first comprehensive [digital resource](#) documenting the 1918-1919 American epidemic experience
- [Flu season already?](#)
- [Health officials urge everyone to get a flu shot](#)
- [OUR VIEW: To get a flu shot, or not?](#)
- [Vaccines available in student health center](#)

National Articles

- [HHS contract advances development of novel influenza antiviral](#)
- [WHO: 2013 southern flu vaccine should copy 2012 northern version](#)
- [Americans urged to get vaccinated as flu season nears](#)
- [Study: Most flu infections in fair pigs were unapparent](#)

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

HealthMap Vaccine Finder

The [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) is now available to promote flu and other adult vaccinations to the public.

CDC Expert Commentaries on Medscape

- [Recommended Vaccines for All Healthcare Personnel](#), presented by our very own MDCH alum, JoEllen Wolicki
- [Sorting Out the 2012-2013 Influenza Vaccine Recommendations](#), presented by Dr. Tim Uyeki

News Letters

The September 2012 edition of CDC's Immunization Works is [now available](#).

FluBytes is distributed to MDCH flu partners for informational and communication purposes. Please feel free to distribute widely. Archived editions of FluBytes can be found [here](#). To access archived editions of MI FluFocus click [here](#).