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FLU UPDATES

Today the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) posted a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, "[Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Adults – National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2008-09 Influenza Season](#)". The report examines factors associated with influenza vaccination and suggests ways that the provisions of the Affordable Care Act might improve access to vaccination and influenza vaccination coverage. Key points include:

- Influenza vaccination coverage overall during the 2008-09 influenza season for adults aged 18-64 years was 28.2%
 - Coverage was significantly higher among adults aged 50-64 years than among those 18-49 years
- Overall, influenza vaccination coverage among adults with high-risk conditions was 41.4%.
- Respondents who were health-care personnel had significantly higher influenza vaccination coverage (53.0%) than those who were not health-care personnel (25.8%).
- Influenza vaccination coverage was substantially higher among adults who had health insurance (whether private or public) than adults who did not have insurance.
- Substantial improvement in annual influenza vaccination of recommended groups is needed to reduce the health impact of influenza.

Yesterday the CDC posted, "[What You Should Know for the 2012-2013 Influenza Season](#)." The resource includes information on:

- Who should get vaccinated
- Vaccine locations
- Why a flu vaccine is needed annually
- Timing of flu vaccination

Journal Articles

The manuscript "[Intensive Care Unit Patients with 2009 Pandemic Influenza A \(H1N1pdm09\) Virus Infection - United States, 2009](#)" (Bramley et al., 2012) is now available online for Early View in the journal *Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses*.

H3N2 Variant Influenza

Researchers in the *Journal of Virology* used influenza surveillance of swine to describe the evolution and emergence of variant H3N2 viruses that were found in 12 recent human infections. Researchers noted that the H3 from the variant virus was transmitted from humans to swine during the 1990s and that the N2 was more recently acquired from humans in 2001-02, which might explain why mainly children have been infected with the variant.

Influenza News Articles

[New flu detection test can be carried in a first aid kit](#)

[Studies: Antiviral prescribing reflects CDC guidance, flu activity](#)

[Airflow problems plague CDC bioterror lab](#)

Influenza Activity

[Eight people admitted to hospital with flu](#)

[Influenza virus activity in the world](#)

Pandemic Preparedness

This week the CDC posted [resources](#) to help states and communities plan for protecting older adults during public health emergencies.

News Article: [Preparing for a pandemic](#)

Avian Influenza

[Bird flu detected on a large poultry farm in Russia](#)

[Thailand begins trial on avian influenza nasal spray vaccine](#)

[HHS support results in international influenza vaccine milestone: Clinical trial among first in the world for live attenuated influenza vaccine for avian influenza](#)

FLU RESOURCES

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CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

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