NATIONAL FLU VACCINATION COVERAGE DATA, 2012-13
CDC has released the final estimates for national influenza vaccination coverage during the 2012-13 season. Data is included by state for the general population and also includes national estimates for special populations (high-risk adults, pregnant women, healthcare personnel). These data can be found on CDC’s website. Healthcare personnel and pregnant women estimates are also in this week’s MMWR.

ALLIANCE FOR IMMUNIZATION IN MICHIGAN - 2013 AWARD
Nominations are welcome for the 2013 Alliance for Immunization in Michigan (AIM) Outstanding Achievement Award. Submit a nomination by close of business Monday, September 30 by filling out this survey.

2013 MDCH FALL REGIONAL IMMUNIZATION CONFERENCES
Registration is open for the 2013 MDCH fall regional immunization conferences. Eight conferences will be held throughout Michigan during October and November. To register or for more information about the immunization conferences, visit the conference website.

H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA JOURNAL AND NEWS ARTICLES
- Dutch court affirms limit on publishing H5N1 findings
- Nepal reports 350,000 poultry died in recent H5N1 outbreaks

INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS ARTICLES
- World Health Organization picks strains for 2014 Southern Hemisphere flu vaccine
- Could immune cell discovery lead to universal flu vaccine?
- Scientists closer to universal flu vaccine after pandemic ‘natural experiment’
- New York health care workers must get flu vaccine or wear mask
- Scientists take big step towards universal flu vaccine
- First confirmed case of influenza 2013-14 in New Hampshire

ACIP MEETING AGENDA - OCTOBER 23-24, 2013
A tentative meeting agenda for the October 23-24 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has been posted. Influenza will be discussed on October 24.

SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE DOSES DISTRIBUTED
CDC is providing weekly updates on the total number of seasonal influenza vaccine doses distributed. As of September 20, approximately 73 million doses were distributed throughout the U.S.

AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9) JOURNAL ARTICLES
- Scientists aim at protecting adults from virulent strain of avian influenza virus

INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES
- Clinical Infectious Diseases: Outbreak of Variant Influenza A (H3N2v) Virus in the United States
  - Study led by CDC with collaborators from 10 states that reported cases of H3N2 variant virus (H3N2v) during the summer of 2012
  - Majority of cases reported exposures suggesting swine contact at agricultural fairs was risk for infection
  - Identified limited person-to-person transmission
- BMC Infectious Diseases: Effectiveness of influenza vaccine against laboratory-confirmed influenza, in the late 2011-2012 season in Spain, among population targeted for vaccination
  - Researchers found vaccine effectiveness (VE) against H3N2 in those 65 years and older appeared to decrease as time since vaccination increased.
  - Results should be interpreted with caution because the study was limited by small sample size, and decrease in VE was not statistically significant.
  - This study emphasizes the need for educating the 65+ year age group on importance of flu vaccination and availability of high-dose flu vaccine to help provide better protection in this population.
- PLoS ONE: Effective school actions for mitigating seasonal influenza outbreaks in Niigata, Japan
  - Results suggested a 2-day class closure the day after reaching 10% absenteeism is an effective approach for mitigating flu outbreaks in elementary schools

FLU WEBSITES
www.michigan.gov/flu
www.cdc.gov/flu
www.flu.gov
http://vaccine.healthmap.org/
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