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SEASONAL INFLUENZA ACTIVITY

Influenza activity remained high in the U.S., with 29 states reporting 'widespread' activity. Michigan continues to experience widespread influenza activity, the highest activity level.

Michigan and National News

- CDC's [FluView](#) (week ending February 1, 2014)
 - 40 flu-associated pediatric deaths have been reported for the 2013-14 season
- [2009 H1N1 pandemic strain more likely in patients with cystic fibrosis](#)
- [Deaths from influenza outbreak shoot up in California](#)

CDC LETTER TO HCP - VACCINATE PREGNANT WOMEN

This week federal health officials sent a [letter](#) to healthcare providers urging them to take steps to protect pregnant women from the flu due to reports of flu hospitalizations and deaths in pregnant women. They urged providers to continue offering flu vaccine to pregnant women, as flu is more likely to cause severe illness and increase the risk of premature labor. Antiviral drugs are also recommended for pregnant women who have the flu.

AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9) NEWS AND ARTICLES

So far, 181 cases have been reported in the second wave of H7N9, compared with 136 in the first wave in 2013. Southern provinces are leading the second wave of cases. According to [FluTrackers](#), the unofficial outbreak total is now over 320 cases with 68 deaths. Poultry-farming industry groups have asked health officials to [share less information](#) about the outbreak because it has hurt poultry sales. The agricultural organizations have requested H7N9 not be referred to as 'bird flu' but rather simply 'flu.'

- WHO: [Human infection with H7N9 - update](#) (Feb. 7)
- [H7N9 cases grow, China poultry industry outcry](#)
- NEJM: [Epidemiology of H7N9 in China](#)
 - Reaffirms H7N9 rarely spreads person-to-person
- [No H7N9 letup as Guangxi detections prompt warning](#)
- [Comparison of patients hospitalized with H7N9, H5N1, and 2009 pandemic H1N1](#)
- [Possible role of songbirds and parakeets in transmission of H7N9 to humans](#)

MICHIGAN IMMUNIZATION TIMELY TIPS NEWSLETTER

The [January](#) issue of the MI Immunization Timely Tips newsletter has been released. This issue features newly released 2014 immunization schedules, MDCH's college/university flu toolkit, the 2-dose flu algorithm, and other important immunization news.

AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H5N1) NEWS

- [1st new human case of avian influenza H5N1 in Cambodia in 2014](#)
- [Vietnam records second bird flu death this year](#)
- [China: Guangxi says 75-year-old has H5N1](#)

INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [Interim estimates of 2013-14 vaccine effectiveness against A\(H1N1\)pdm09 from Canada's sentinel surveillance network, January 2014](#)
 - Canadian researchers estimate this year's flu vaccine reduces risk of infection from 2009 H1N1 virus by 74%
- [H6 influenza viruses pose a potential threat to human health](#)
 - 34% of H6 avian flu strains tested were able to recognize human-type receptors, a sign that they may pose a threat to human health
- [Clinical and epidemiological characteristics of a fatal case of avian influenza A H10N8 virus infection: a descriptive study](#)
 - First human infection with H10N8 in China involved new strain with genes from H9N2 viruses and has a mutation associated with adaptation to mammals
- [Serological documentation of maternal influenza exposure and bipolar disorder in adult offspring](#)

OTHER INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS

- CDC: [Investigational use of IV zanamivir for 2013-14 season](#)
- FDA Consumer Health Information: [It's still not too late to get your flu vaccine](#)

FLU WEBSITES

www.michigan.gov/flu
www.cdc.gov/flu
www.flu.gov
<http://vaccine.healthmap.org/>

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