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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS (AAP)

The AAP published their [official recommendations](#) which align with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and recommends annual trivalent seasonal influenza immunization for all persons aged 6 months and older during the 2012-2013 influenza season. In addition, special efforts should be made to vaccinate individuals in the following groups:

- All children, including infants born preterm, who are ≥ 6 months of age who have conditions that increase the risk of complications from influenza;
- All household contacts and out-of-home care providers of:
 - children with high-risk conditions; and
 - children aged <5 years, especially infants aged <6 months
- All health care personnel (HCP); and
- All women who are pregnant, are considering pregnancy, have just delivered, or are breastfeeding

Related News Articles: [Pediatricians' Group Urges Flu Shot for Kids Aged 6 Months and Up](#)

INFLUENZA RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

A [recent study](#) found that influenza vaccine coverage in Canada varies by ethnicity - Canadians of Filipino (41%), Japanese (38%) and Chinese (35%) backgrounds had much higher vaccination rates than white Canadians (32%) and black Canadians (27%).

INFLUENZA NEWS ARTICLES

- [Ferrets Keep Flu Vaccine/H1N1 Pot Boiling](#)
- [Ferret study underlines persistent threat of swine flu viruses](#)
- [Reconstructed 1918 Influenza Virus Has Yielded Key Insights, Scientists Say](#)
- [Sanofi Pasteur Enlists Chris O'Donnell](#)
- Blog: [It's Not too Early to Be Thinking About the Flu](#)

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September 2012 marks the ninth annual [National Preparedness Month](#).

This month the Infectious Disease Society of America published a 24 page report, "[Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza Principles for United States Action](#)."

Related News Articles:

- [New HHS contracts enhance pandemic preparedness](#)
- [HHS renews contracts for pandemic vaccine activities](#)
- [CSL wins US Government contract for influenza vaccines](#)

AVIAN INFLUENZA

[Notes from the Field: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A \(H7N3\) Virus Infection in Two Poultry Workers – Jalisco, Mexico, July 2012](#)

CMS HCP VACCINATION REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Acute care hospitals participating in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program will be required to submit summary data on influenza vaccination of healthcare personnel via the CDC's [National Healthcare Safety Network](#) (NHSN) beginning January 1, 2013 for the 2012-2013 flu season. Facilities must report vaccination data for three categories of HCP:

- Employees on payroll;
- Licensed independent practitioners (who are physicians, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants affiliated with the hospital but not on payroll); and
- Students, trainees, and volunteers aged 18 or older. Only HCP physically working in the facility for at least 30 days between October 1 and March 31 should be counted. The data required to be reported for the three categories of HCP includes:

- Vaccinations received at the facility;
- Vaccinations received outside of the facility;
- Medical contraindications; and
- Declinations.

Resources and Additional Information:

- [Healthcare Personnel Vaccination Module: Influenza Vaccination Summary Protocol](#)
- [Operational Guidance Flu Vaccination Summary](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions: [HCP Influenza Vaccination Summary Reporting in NHSN](#)
- [HCP Customizable Reporting Forms](#)

In addition to reporting HCP vaccination data to NHSN, ensure that your hospital is reporting to the [Michigan Care Improvement Registry](#).

VARIANT INFLUENZA A H1N2 (H1N2V) CASES

The [Minnesota Department of Health reported 3](#) infections with an influenza A H1N2 variant ("H1N2v") virus with the pandemic M gene from the 2009 H1N1 virus. This virus is different from the H3N2v virus that has been circulating recently. These additional human infections underscore the fact that swine influenza viruses can spread to people after close contact with infected pigs, and support the importance of ongoing surveillance for both human and swine influenza viruses. CDC: [H1N2 Variant Virus Detected in Minnesota](#) CIDRAP: [Flu parallels: Swine-origin H1N2 has gene from 2009 H1N1](#)

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 Educational Updates

Register now for CDC's [Current Issues Netconference - Vaccination of Health Care Personnel and Pneumococcal Vaccination on Sep. 20, 2012](#) (12-1 pm ET)

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](#).