

Influenza education materials for patients & staff

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Standing Orders for Administering Influenza Vaccines to Children & Adolescents

Purpose: To reduce morbidity and mortality from influenza by vaccinating all children and adolescents who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Policy: Under these standing orders, eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals (e.g., pharmacists), where allowed

Patient name: _____ Date of birth: (mo.) / (day) / (yr.)

Standing Orders for Administering Influenza Vaccine to Adults

Purpose: To reduce morbidity and mortality from influenza by vaccinating all adults who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Policy: Under these standing orders, eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals (e.g., pharmacists), where allowed

Patient name: _____ Date of birth: (mo.) / (day) / (yr.)

Screening Questionnaire for Injectable Influenza Vaccination

Patient name: _____ Date of birth: (mo.) / (day) / (yr.)

Screening Questionnaire for Intranasal Influenza Vaccination

Patient name: _____ Date of birth: (mo.) / (day) / (yr.)

First do no harm
Protect patients by making sure all staff receive yearly influenza vaccine!

Summary of CDC's HCP/ACIP Recommendations

The committee that developed and endorsed these recommendations included persons with expertise in infectious diseases, infection control, pediatrics, vaccination, internal medicine, and public health. The recommendations are as follows:

- Educate HCP regarding the benefits of influenza vaccination and the potential health consequences of influenza illness for themselves and their patients, the epidemiology and modes of transmission, diagnosis, treatment, and nonvaccine infection control strategies, in accordance with their level of responsibility in preventing health-care-associated influenza.
- Offer influenza vaccine annually to all eligible HCP to protect staff, patients, and family members and to decrease HCP absenteeism. Use of other available vaccine (inactivated [ITV] or live attenuated influenza vaccine [LAIV]) is recommended for eligible persons. During periods when ITV is in short supply, use of LAIV is especially encouraged when feasible for eligible HCP.
- Provide influenza vaccination to HCP at the work site and at no cost to one component of employee health programs. Use strategies that have been demonstrated to increase influenza vaccine acceptance, including vaccination clinics, mobile carts, vaccination access during all work shifts, and modeling and support by institutional leaders.
- Obtain a signed declination from HCP who decline influenza vaccination for reasons other than medical contraindications.
- Monitor HCP influenza vaccination coverage and declination at regular intervals during influenza season and provide feedback of work, unit, and specialty-specific rates to staff and administrators.
- Use the level of HCP influenza vaccination coverage as one measure of a patient-care-quality program.

Practical resources for vaccinating HCP against influenza

Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Final "Influenza Vaccination of Health-Care Personnel"
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wr502.pdf
Access CDC's Influenza web page: www.cdc.gov/flu

National Influenza Vaccine Summit (NIVS)
(Co-sponsored by the American Medical Association and CDC). See the NIVS Healthcare Workers Issue page: www.preventinfluenza.org/pdf_workers.pdf

Massachusetts Medical Society
State's 2008 Employee Flu Immunization Campaign Kit
www.massmed.org/flu_kit

Immunization Action Coalition • 1373 Safety Ave. • St. Paul, MN 55104 • (651) 647-9009 • www.immunize.org • www.vaccineinformation.org

Declination of Influenza Vaccination

Give these people influenza vaccine!

WHY? This year, influenza is again expected to kill more than 36,000 people in the United States.

Influenza: Questions and Answers
Information about the disease and vaccines

Don't take chances with your family's health – make sure you all

INACTIVATED INFLUENZA VACCINE

LIVE, INTRANASAL INFLUENZA VACCINE
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW 2009-10

1 Why get vaccinated?

Influenza ("flu") is a contagious disease. It is caused by the influenza virus, which can be spread by coughing, sneezing, or nasal secretions. Other illnesses can have the same symptoms and are often mistaken for influenza. But only an illness caused by the influenza virus is really influenza. Anyone can get influenza, but rates of infection are highest among children. For most people, it lasts only a few days. It can cause:

- fever
- sore throat
- cough
- muscle aches
- headache
- fatigue

Some people, such as infants, elderly, and those with certain health conditions, can get much sicker. Flu can cause high fever and pneumonia, and make existing medical conditions worse. It can cause diarrhea and seizures in children. On average, 226,000 people are hospitalized every year because of influenza and 36,000 die – mostly elderly. Influenza vaccine can prevent influenza.

2 Live, attenuated influenza vaccine – LAIV (nasal spray)

There are two types of seasonal influenza vaccine:

1. Live, attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) contains live but attenuated (weakened) influenza viruses. It is sprayed into the nostrils.
2. Inactivated influenza vaccine, sometimes called the "flu shot," is given by injection. Inactivated influenza vaccine is described in separate Vaccine Information Statement.

Influenza viruses are always changing. Because of this, influenza vaccines are updated every year, and an annual vaccination is recommended. Each year scientists try to match the viruses in the vaccine to those most likely to cause flu that year. When there is a close match the vaccine protects most people from serious influenza-related illness. But even when there is not a close match, the vaccine provides some protection. Influenza vaccine will not prevent "influenza-like" illnesses caused by other viruses. It takes up to 2 weeks for protection to develop after the shot. Protection lasts up to a year. LAIV does not contain thimerosal or other preservatives.

3 Who can get LAIV?

LAIV is approved for people from 2 through 49 years of age, who are not pregnant and do not have certain health conditions (see #4, below). Influenza vaccination is recommended for people who can spread influenza to others at high risk, such as:

- Household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children up to 5 years of age, and people 65 and older.
- Physicians and nurses, and family members or anyone else in close contact with people at risk of serious influenza. Health care providers may also recommend a yearly influenza vaccination for:
- People who provide essential community services, or under other crowded conditions, to prevent outbreaks.
- Influenza vaccine is also recommended for anyone who wants to reduce the likelihood of becoming ill with influenza or spreading influenza to others.

4 Some people should not get LAIV

LAIV is not licensed for everyone. The following people should get the inactivated vaccine (flu shot) instead:

- Adults 50 years of age and older or children between 6 months and 2 years of age. (Children younger than 6 months should not get either influenza vaccine.)
- Children younger than 5 with asthma or one or more episodes of wheezing within the past year.
- People who have long-term health problems with:
 - heart disease
 - kidney or liver disease
 - lung disease
 - metabolic disease, such as diabetes
 - anemia, and other blood disorders
- Anyone with a serious muscle or nerve disorder (such as seizure disorders or cerebral palsy) that can lead to breathing or swallowing problems.
- Anyone with a weakened immune system.
- Children or adolescents on long-term aspirin treatment.
- Pregnant women.

Tell your doctor if you ever had Guillain-Barre syndrome (a severe paralytic illness also called GBS). You may be able to get the vaccine, but your doctor should help you make the decision.

For 8-1/2" x 11" copies of the pieces above, visit IAC's website: www.immunize.org

1. Standing orders for administering seasonal influenza vaccines to children & adolescents: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3074a.pdf
2. Standing orders for administering seasonal influenza vaccine to adults: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3074.pdf
3. Screening questionnaire for injectable influenza vaccination: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4066.pdf
4. Screening questionnaire for intranasal influenza vaccination: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4067.pdf
5. First do no harm: Protect patients by making sure all staff receive yearly influenza vaccine! www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2014.pdf
6. Declination of influenza vaccination (for healthcare worker refusal): www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4068.pdf
7. Give these people seasonal influenza vaccine! www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2013.pdf
8. Influenza: Questions and Answers: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4208.pdf
9. Don't take chances with your family's health—make sure you all get vaccinated against influenza! www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4069.pdf
10. Federally required Vaccine Information Statements in English and other languages: www.immunize.org/vis
 - Inactivated Influenza Vaccine: What you need to know: www.immunize.org/vis/2flu.pdf
 - Live, Intranasal Influenza Vaccine: What you need to know: www.immunize.org/vis/liveflu.pdf