

Vaccinate Adults!

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Immunization Action Coalition

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IAC publishes a free email news service (*IAC Express*) and two free periodicals (*Needle Tips* and *Vaccinate Adults*). To subscribe to any or all of them, go to www.immunize.org/subscribe.

IAC, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, publishes practical immunization information for health professionals to help increase immunization rates and prevent disease.

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IAC's Honor Roll Focuses on Mandatory Influenza Vaccination for Healthcare Personnel

Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent influenza transmission in healthcare settings. Two years ago, on October 9, 2009, the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) announced its online *Honor Roll for Patient Safety* (www.immunize.org/honor-roll). The Honor Roll recognizes hospitals, medical practices, professional organizations, and government entities that have taken a stand for patient safety by adopting policies endorsing mandatory influenza vaccination or by implementing mandatory influenza vaccination policies for all employees. In two years' time, more than 120 institutions have joined the Honor Roll.

Mandatory Vaccination Policies from Leading Health Organizations

The number of professional societies and organizations that have issued policy statements in support of mandatory influenza vaccination for healthcare workers has grown from 1 in 2009 to 12 in 2011. To view the current listing of policies and position statements from leading organizations in medicine, pediatrics, pharmacy, public health, infectious diseases, and hospital administration, visit IAC's Honor Roll at www.immunize.org/honor-roll. Refer to the position statements of these leading medical organizations to help you develop and implement a mandatory influenza vaccination policy at your healthcare institution or medical setting.

Honoring Healthcare Institutions

IAC encourages qualifying healthcare organizations to apply for its Honor Roll for Patient Safety. To date, more than 120 facilities have been enrolled for inclusion in the Honor Roll for Patient Safety. To view a state-by-state listing of Honor Roll designees and to find specific information on the mandates of the enrolled organizations, visit www.immunize.org/honor-roll/influenza-mandates.asp.

To be included in the Honor Roll, an organization's mandate must require influenza vaccination for employees and must include serious measures to prevent transmission of influenza from unvaccinated workers

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Honor Roll for Patient Safety

Mandatory Influenza Vaccination for Healthcare Workers

IAC is recognizing the stellar examples of influenza vaccination mandates in healthcare settings. The best way to prevent transmission of influenza to our patients is to mandate vaccination of healthcare workers. The Honor Roll represents the champions who have taken the lead in mandating influenza vaccination within their organization or institution. To be included in the honor roll, your organization's mandate must require influenza vaccination for employees and must include serious measures to prevent transmission of influenza from unvaccinated workers to patients. Such measures might include a mask requirement, reassignment to non-patient-care duties, or dismissal of the employee.

Position Statements

Leaders in medicine and infectious diseases have spoken: Mandatory influenza vaccination for all healthcare workers is imperative! Refer to the position statements of these leading medical organizations to guide you in developing and implementing a mandatory influenza vaccination policy at your healthcare institution or medical setting.

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Mandatory Influenza Vaccination of Health Care Personnel (HCP)
The AAFP supports annual mandatory influenza immunization for health care personnel (HCP) except for religious or medical reasons (not personal preferences). If HCP are not vaccinated, policies to adjust practice activities during flu season are appropriate (e.g. wear masks, refrain from direct patient care).
Released: June 2011

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Policy Statement-Recommendation for Mandatory Influenza Immunization of All Health Care Personnel
The Academy has released a new policy statement that recommends the implementation of a mandatory influenza immunization policy for all health care personnel.
Released: October 2010

American College of Physicians (ACP) Policy on Influenza Vaccination of Health Care Workers
An annual influenza vaccine should be required for every health care worker with direct patient care activities, unless a medical contraindication to influenza immunization exists or a religious objection to immunization exists. If however, health care workers make those exceptions, they must still fulfill their ethical obligations to patients and colleagues by not engaging in direct patient care activities if flu-like symptoms are present. In addition, those health care workers who cannot receive flu vaccines due to medical or religious contraindications should either be re-assigned to non-patient care areas during influenza season or wear a mask at all times during influenza season in the context of patient care.
Released: October 2010

Join the Honor Roll Today!
Fill out this online form to tell IAC about influenza vaccination mandates in your healthcare setting.

Mandate Champions
View the honor roll - more than 100 organizations are now enrolled!

Tools
Guidance for Developing a Mandatory Influenza Vaccination Program
Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) - 2011

IACW
Influenza Immunization Toolkit
2010-2011
Immunization Action Coalition of Washington

Journal Articles & Editorials

- Time to Mandate Influenza Vaccination in Health-Care
Perspective by Arthur Caplan, PhD. *The Lancet* - 7/22/11
- Vaccinating Health Care Workers against Influenza: The Ethical and Legal Rationale for a Mandate
American Journal of Public Health - 2011
- Mandatory Influenza Vaccination of Health Care Workers: Translating Policy to Practice
Clinical Infectious Diseases - 2/15/11
- Reflections on the Influenza Vaccination of Healthcare Workers
Vaccine - 11/29/10
- Mandatory Flu Vaccination of Healthcare Workers: A Patient Safety Imperative
Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology - 10/19/10
- Mandatory influenza vaccination of healthcare workers: a 5-year study
Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology - 9/19/10

www.immunize.org/honor-roll

to patients. Such measures might include a mask requirement, reassignment to non-patient-care duties, or dismissal of the employee. To submit your institution's application for the Honor Roll, please fill out the online form (www.immunize.org/laws/mandates.aspx).

Toolkits, Journal Articles, and News

On the Honor Roll page, IAC provides links to toolkits that are intended to help you develop a mandatory influenza vaccination program in your healthcare setting. In addition, you will find a listing of related journal articles and editorials from the medical literature, as well as links to online news coverage on this topic.

Periodically, our free weekly email news service, *IAC Express*, features an article about recent additions to the Honor Roll. We suggest you subscribe to *IAC Express*. Once you complete the sign-up form at www.immunize.org/subscribe, you'll start receiving email announcements about important developments related to immunization.

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