



**FROM:** Communicable Disease Prevention Unit  
San Francisco Department of Public Health

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**Please Read and Post**

## **Keep Vaccinating for Flu! Local Flu-Related Hospitalizations Report for 09-10 Published**

This year's flu season got off to a late start in terms of reported cases, but cases to date and newly-published local data from last year remind us of some essentials:

- 1) Keep immunizing all people over age 6 months, especially pregnant women and those in high risk groups
- 2) Valuable information about surveillance, testing, treatment, infection control and post-exposure prophylaxis can be found in our 2010-2011 Influenza Health Advisory posted at <http://www.sfcdcp.org/healthalerts>
- 3) <http://sfcdcp.org/flu> remains an excellent source of information for all things flu-related for San Francisco. If you feel that there is something missing from this site, please give us a call at 554-2830.

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Although every flu season is different, last year's world-wide pandemic due to the novel influenza A H1N1 Swine Flu strain had some unique characteristics. A newly-published summary report *Influenza-Related Hospitalizations in San Francisco, 2009-2010*, provides a snapshot of the pandemic-related hospitalizations in San Francisco. Highlights of the report include:

- The majority of the 208 hospitalized flu cases were due to H1N1 Swine Flu
- Demographic characteristics were similar to state and national characteristics
- H1N1 Swine flu affected a population younger than usual
- African-American and Hispanic persons were over-represented among hospitalized cases compared to the proportion of these groups in the general San Francisco population
- Pregnant women, who make up 1% of the general population nationally, accounted for 10% of San Francisco hospitalized cases

The full report is posted here: <http://www.sfcdcp.org/publications.html>.

Thank you for keeping San Franciscans healthy during this flu season.



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