



MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/07/2020

TO: STAFF AT FACILITIES OFFERING FLU VACCINATION

FROM: INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE BRANCH

RE: CURATED GUIDE TO SELF-EDUCATION ON THE FLU VACCINE

Background: Healthcare sites including but not limited to behavioral health centers, are ramping up existing flu vaccination programs or initiating entirely new programs of flu vaccination.

This year special efforts are underway to achieve high rates of seasonal influenza vaccination among healthcare staff, patients, and clients. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, preventing influenza by means of widespread vaccination of the population is critical to reducing anticipated surge demands for both testing and healthcare of persons who develop influenza-like illness.

Audience: Clinical and non-clinical staff in settings including but not limited to behavioral health centers, who want to be informed about the Influenza virus, the flu vaccine, and how to talk to clients and colleagues to promote flu vaccination while addressing common concerns and questions.

Self-Education Guide

Click on the links below to access a short list of easy to read, evidence-based and reliable information that will provide a comprehensive background of the Influenza virus, the safety and efficacy of the seasonal flu vaccine, and how to address common concerns and questions.

- Do I Really Need the Flu Shot? (U. Wisconsin-Madison, Pharmacy Division)
<https://ce.pharmacy.wisc.edu/blog/do-i-really-need-the-flu-shot-and-other-questions-to-address-this-flu-season/>
- Influenza: Questions and Answers (Immunization Action Coalition)
<https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4208.pdf>
- Who needs a Flu Vaccine and When (CDC)
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccinations.htm>
- Key Facts about Seasonal Flu Vaccine (CDC)
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/keyfacts.htm>
- What Are the Benefits if the Flu Vaccine (CDC)
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccine-benefits.htm>
- Misconceptions about Seasonal Flu Vaccines (CDC)
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/misconceptions.htm>
- San Francisco Department of Public Health - Disease Prevention & Control Flu Page (SFDPH)
<https://www.sfdcp.org/infectious-diseases-a-to-z/influenza-flu/>