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Influenza Season has Started! – Health care providers should start vaccination efforts as soon as possible and continue to offer vaccine throughout the influenza season.

- **Influenza Vaccine Distribution – U.S.:** Manufacturers project 135-139 million doses of flu vaccine will be produced this season. As of 9/20/2013, approximately 73 million doses have been distributed.
 - For retail locations that offer vaccine, see the Flu Vaccine Finder: <http://flushot.healthmap.org/>.
 - The Health Care Agency will be providing free flu shots at two special clinics on 10/11/2013 in Westminster and 10/25/2013 in Yorba Linda and Laguna Woods. For locations and times, see <http://ohealthinfo.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=30353> & <http://www1.ochca.com/ohealthinfo.com/freeflushot/>. Additional locations for publicly funded influenza vaccine clinics will be posted at <http://ohealthinfo.com/phs/about/family/flu> when available.
- **Influenza Vaccination Highlights: 2013-2014 Season**
 - Annual flu vaccination continues to be recommended for all persons aged ≥ 6 months. Continued emphasis should be placed on vaccination of persons who are at higher risk for influenza-related complications, or who live with or care for these high risk persons.
 - Children aged 6 months to 8 years who have not received at least two doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since 7/1/2010 require 2 doses of influenza vaccine. These children should receive their second dose of vaccine ≥ 4 weeks after their initial dose. For details, see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/acip/2013-summary-recommendations.htm#figure1>.
 - Several new, recently-licensed vaccines will be available this season. Within approved age indications and recommendations, CDC does not preferentially recommend any type or brand of licensed influenza vaccine over another.
 - U.S. trivalent influenza vaccines will contain an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus, an H3N2 virus similar to A/Victoria/361/2011, and a B/Massachusetts/2/2012-like virus (Yamagata lineage). Quadrivalent vaccines will include an additional B virus, a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus (Victoria lineage).

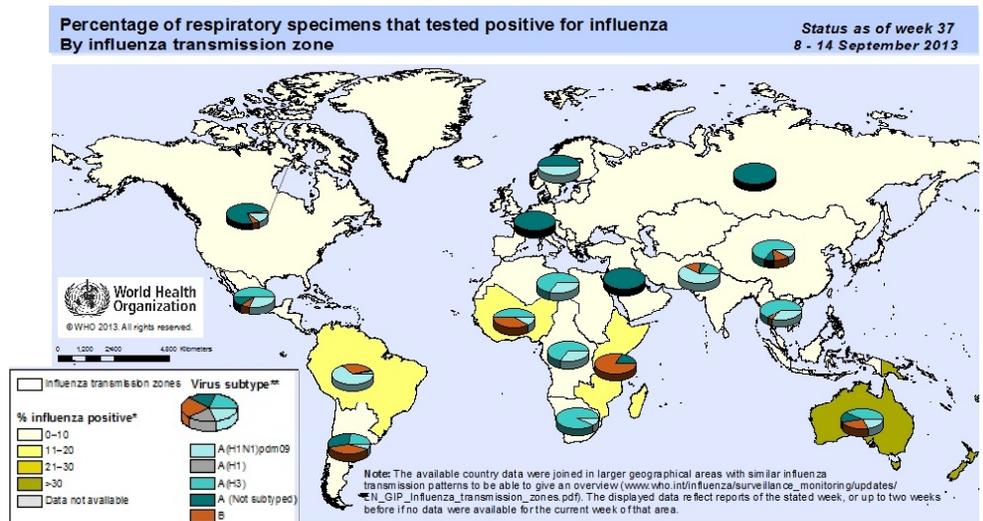


For more guidance on the use of influenza vaccines, including vaccine products and dosing, see “Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines; Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) – United States, 2013-14 Influenza Season” available in the 9/20/2013 *MMWR* at www.cdc.gov/mmwr.

- **Who Should Get Vaccinated Against Influenza?** The following link, http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/whoshouldvax.htm?s_cid=seasonalfu-govd-003, provides specific information on who should and should not be vaccinated against influenza, by vaccine product type.

Influenza Update

- Influenza activity in the northern hemisphere temperate zones remained at inter-seasonal levels. Influenza activity has peaked and is currently decreasing in most areas of the southern hemisphere. Activity varies by country; for more information: http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/



If you have any comments about this flyer, contact Sandra Okubo, MPH or Michele Cheung, MD at (714) 834-8180. To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.