

December 9, 2014 Progress Notes

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CDC Flu Update on 2014-2015 Influenza Season: 12/4/2014

Source: Ruben Tapia Ruben.Tapia@LA.GOV

As always, flu is unpredictable and every season is different with different flu viruses spreading and causing illness. So far this season influenza A (H3N2) viruses have been detected most frequently and have been detected in almost all states. We tend to have more severe seasons when H3N2 viruses predominate. Unfortunately, about half of the H3N2s that we have analyzed since October are different from the H3N2 virus that is included in this season's flu vaccine. They are different enough that we are

concerned protection from vaccination against these drifted H3N2 viruses may be reduced. CDC continues to recommend:

- Flu vaccination as the best way to protect against the flu. Vaccination may provide partial protection against the drifted viruses and should better protect against other non-drifted flu viruses that may circulate this season, including influenza B viruses
- Antiviral medications as an important second line of defense against the flu. Treatment with antiviral drugs is especially important for people at high risk of serious flu complications or people who are very sick with flu. It's especially important to get antiviral medicines quickly – as they work best when started within two days of the beginning of flu symptoms.
- Everyday actions like covering your cough, staying away from sick people, and washing your hands often. If you get the flu, stay home from work or school. If you are sick, do not go near other people so that you don't make them sick too.

Below are some key resources to assist and support your ongoing efforts to prevent influenza illness and promote prompt treatment when influenza illness occurs. We welcome you to use and share these guidance and education resources in your efforts and with other partners or constituents. Your efforts are critical and greatly appreciated in helping us fight this serious disease this and every flu season.

Key Points

CDC Health Alert Network, Health Advisory: Regarding the Potential for Circulation of Drifted Influenza A (H3N2) Viruses

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00374.asp>

CDC Media

See <http://www.cdc.gov/media/index.html> for today's press release, telebriefing transcript, and media advisory

Q&As: What You Should Know for the 2014-2015 Influenza Season

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2014-2015.htm>

Antiviral information on the CDC website: Including general information, information for health care professionals, and other information for people who are sick with flu

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/antivirals/index.htm>

CDC Expert Commentaries on Medscape: Antivirals, Not Antibiotics, for Influenza (October 2014), When to Give Antiviral Drugs for the Flu (March 2014), Influenza in Pregnancy: Prevention and Treatment (November 2014)

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/media-medscape.htm>

CDC Flu Mobile Apps – with information on flu activity and CDC recommendations

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/mobile.htm>

NEW! Toolkit for Long-Term Care Employers

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/toolkit/long-term-care/index.htm>

The National Vaccine Program Office and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with support from the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion in the Department of Health and Human Services, created a web-based toolkit to provide easily accessible tools and resources for managers in long-term care (LTC) facilities to improve influenza vaccination coverage among their personnel.

This new comprehensive toolkit includes a number of useful resources, tools and information to help close the gap in vaccination of healthcare personnel in LTC facilities such as:

- guidance documents, campaign materials, and educational resources to share with managers and staff,
- community best practices for achieving high influenza vaccination among staff,

- a chart of common barriers to influenza vaccination in these settings with recommended strategies for overcoming specific barriers,
- an easy to follow guide on the Affordable Care Act role in increasing access to influenza vaccination in this population, and so much more.

NEW! Resources on Influenza Specimen Collection:

Desk Reference Guide (8.5"x11"): <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/freeresources/healthcare/flu-specimen-collection-guide.pdf>

Poster (11"x17"): <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/freeresources/healthcare/flu-specimen-collection-poster.pdf>

National Influenza Vaccination Week, Dec 7-13, 2014: A national observance that was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination. This year, we are placing more focus on vaccination promotion activities using digital media platforms and these activities are listed below. For additional NIVW information and resources visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/nivw/index.htm>.

An @CDCFlu-hosted live Twitter chat on Tuesday, December 9 from 1-2pm EST featuring CDC influenza subject matter expert, Dr. Mike Jung. Participate or follow this event on Twitter by using #NIVW2014. The chat will:

- Emphasize that getting vaccinated in December, January and beyond can still provide protective benefit against influenza. As long as flu viruses are circulating, it's not too late to get vaccinated!
- Remind parents and providers of the need for certain children to receive a second dose of flu vaccine for optimal protection.
- Provide an opportunity to ask questions about the flu and flu vaccine.

A National Influenza Vaccination Campaign Partner-Led Twitter Chat will take place on Thursday, December 11, from 2-3 pm EST. The co-hosts of this event will be: American Hospital Association - @ahahospitals, Easter Seals - @Easter_Seals, Long-Term Living - @LongTermLiving, and Men's Health Network - @MensHlthNetwork. The focus of the chat will be about what caregivers need to know about the flu and flu vaccines. This is a new event this year and it is led by YOU, our national flu vaccination campaign partners! Please show your support by promoting it and participate if you are able!

A media update on December 11, 2014 which will include influenza vaccination impact data from the 2013-2014 season as well as early season coverage estimates for the 2014-2015 season.

MMWR

Announcement: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6348a5.htm?s_cid=mm6348a5_e

State Health Department and CDC Highlight Ways to Combat the Flu
Both re-emphasize the use of flu vaccination as the best protection against flu and antiviral medications for treatment

Friday, Dec. 5, 2014 | Contact: Ashley C. Lewis; (225) 342-8518, ashley.lewis@la.gov Baton Rouge, La. - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released a report that shows Louisiana physicians are seeing more flu cases than in other parts of the United States. The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) strongly encourages Louisiana residents to receive flu vaccinations as the best protection against the flu, but also to use antiviral medications, such as Tamiflu, in the instance that the flu does occur.

DHH and the CDC recommend an annual flu vaccine for everyone 6 months age and older. There are documented benefits from flu vaccination, including reductions in flu illnesses, related doctors' visits and

missed work or school. Vaccination also prevents flu-related hospitalizations and death. If you have not been vaccinated yet this season, make plans to get your flu vaccine. You can find out where to get your flu vaccine at www.FighttheFluLA.gov.

Influenza activity in Louisiana (and Alaska) is now characterized as "widespread", which is above the level seen across the country, and Louisiana's Southern neighbor states. This means that almost 5 percent of all visits to physician offices and hospitals are for influenza-like illness. DHH Secretary Kathy H. Kliebert says that because we are seeing an increase flu cases "it is even more imperative that we become vaccinated. The best gift you can give your loved ones is the gift of good health. Get your flu shot to protect not only yourself, but also friends and loved ones, and encourage them to get their shots too."

Yesterday the CDC released a health advisory regarding the potential for circulation of drifted influenza A (H3N2) Viruses. "Even if vaccine effectiveness is reduced against drifted circulating viruses, the flu vaccine will protect against non-drifted circulating vaccine viruses. Further, there is evidence to suggest that vaccination may make any flu illness milder and prevent influenza-related complications," says DHH Medical Director for the Immunization Program, Dr. Frank Welch. If an individual does contract the flu virus antiviral medications are suggested.

The two prescription antiviral medications recommended for treatment and prevention of influenza are oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) and zanamivir (Relenza®). Evidence from past influenza seasons and the 2009 H1N1 pandemic has shown that treatment with these types of medications has both clinical and public health benefit in reducing severe outcomes of influenza and, when indicated. However, antiviral medications must be started as soon as possible after influenza illness begins in order to be effective.

The timing of flu is very unpredictable and can vary from season to season. Flu activity most commonly peaks in the U.S. between December and February. However, seasonal flu activity can begin as early as October and continue to occur as late as May. According to the CDC, the 2014-2015 flu season shows that flu activity is low across the United States, but there are signs that activity is increasing. Flu activity is expected to increase further in the coming weeks.

DHH Secretary Kliebert and Officials to Discuss ADHD Symposium Goals
Participate electronically through the Symposium webinar or by live tweeting with DHH

Friday, Dec. 5, 2014 | Contact: Ashley C. Lewis; (225) 342-8518, ashley.lewis@la.gov Baton Rouge, La. - Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) Secretary Kathy H. Kliebert will join U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Acting Associate Director of Science Susanna Visser, DrPH, MS and other stakeholders for a discussion of the goals of the ADHD Symposium Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014.

Leaders from the fields of medicine, behavioral health, health plan management and education will join family members, advocates and government officials at the Symposium to discuss rates of ADHD medication in Louisiana youth and the best practices in treating ADHD.

Though registration for in-person participation in the Symposium is closed, members of the public may still register and participate in the discussion groups through the live webinar here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/685418319284574209> or by visiting www.dhh.la.gov/adhd.

DHH will also live tweet updates from the ADHD Symposium's general sessions.

Follow @LaHeathDept to see updates from the symposium at the following session times:

- Tue, Dec 9, 2014 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST
- Tue, Dec 9, 2014 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CST
- Tue, Dec 9, 2014 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST

Join in or follow the conversation using #ADHDInLa.

WHAT:

Discussion of Symposium goals and challenges surrounding ADHD diagnoses.

WHO:

Kathy H. Kliebert, DHH Secretary

Susanna Visser, DrPH, MS, Acting Associate Director of Science, Division of Human Development and Disability, National Center on Birth Defects and Disabilities, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Kristin Savicki, Psychologist with DHH's Office of Behavioral Health

WHEN:

12 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 9

WHERE:

DHH Headquarters

Room 118

Bienville Building

628 N. 4th Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals strives to protect and promote health statewide and to ensure access to medical, preventive and rehabilitative services for all state citizens. To learn more about DHH, [visit http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov](http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov).

HHS Releases Annual Report on the Quality of Care for Children in Medicaid and CHIP

Source: AAP State Government Affairs

As required by the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA), the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released the [2014 Annual Report on the Quality of Care for Children in Medicaid and CHIP](#). This report discusses the status of federal and state efforts on quality measurement and reporting and summarizes state-specific findings on reporting of the [Child Core Set](#). Sixteen Child Core Set measures were reported by at least 25 states. The report also provides detailed data and analysis on these 16 measures which include primary care access and preventive care, management of acute and chronic conditions, and dental and oral health services.

With the number of quality measures reported by states increasing from a median of 12 measures in federal fiscal year 2011 to a median of 16 in federal fiscal year 2013, this report shows the continued progress made by HHS and states in building a national, cross-state quality measurement and reporting system for children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.

HHS Office of the Inspector General Releases EPSDT Report

Source: AAP State Government Affairs

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released a [report](#) which outlines what the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has done in recent years to encourage children's participation in Medicaid's Early and Periodic Screening,

Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) screenings. Despite this activity, the report concludes that more needs to be done to ensure that children in Medicaid receive regular wellness exams and screenings, as only 63% of children received EPSDT screenings in fiscal year (FY) 2013. This report is a follow up to a [2010 report](#), which studied 9 states, and originally found that only 59% of children were receiving medical screenings at all.

Since the release of the 2010 report, CMS has been developing resources for states to help increase access to EPSDT benefits for children. A previous [StateHealth e-update](#) included information on the resource, [EPSDT—A Guide for States: Coverage in the Medicaid Benefit for Children and Adolescents](#). CMS has since released additional EPSDT resources that are designed to support states in implementing the EPSDT benefit:

- [Making Connections: Strategies for Strengthening Care Coordination in the Medicaid Benefit for Children and Adolescents](#): This resource provides strategies that state Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) programs can use to strengthen care coordination to increase the effective use of the comprehensive preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services covered by Medicaid under EPSDT.
- [Keep Kids Smiling: Promoting Oral Health Through the Medicaid Benefit for Children and Adolescents](#): This document provides examples of successful approaches to improving oral health access and utilization for children enrolled in Medicaid. Strategies in the report include how to maximize physician participation in Medicaid and improve Medicaid program performance through policy changes.
- [Paving the Road to Good Health: Strategies for Increasing Medicaid Adolescent Well-Care Visits](#): The strategies in this resource are designed to advance gains in access to and utilization of adolescent preventive health care. This guide is designed to help both state Medicaid agencies as well as other adolescent health stakeholders.

Medicaid Check Write Schedule Jan. – June 2015

Click [here](#) for link to the Medicaid Check Write Schedule for January through June 2015

Community Access to Child Health (CATCH™) Grant Opportunity

Call for Proposals-Submissions due January 30, 2015

The CATCH Program is seeking grant applications for innovative community-based projects to improve access to health services for children who are most likely to experience barriers. Eligible initiatives reach out to the community at large. Chapter officers are eligible to apply.

Up to \$10,000 will be awarded to pediatricians and fellowship trainees and \$2,000 to pediatric residents to work collaboratively with local community partners to ensure that all children have access to medical homes or access to specific health services not otherwise available.

Applications available November 3 for Planning Grants, Implementation Grants, and Resident Grants. Learn more at <http://www2.aap.org/catch/funding.htm>.

Examples of Recent Topics

Bullying Prevention
Children of Incarcerated Parents Health
Continuity of Care for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System
Gun Violence
Immunizations
LGBTQ Youth
Military Children's Health
Refugee/Immigrant Health
Teenage Pregnancy & Parenting
Youth in Group Homes Health

To see what others are doing with their CATCH grants, visit the Community Pediatrics grants database at <http://www2.aap.org/commpeds/grantsdatabase>. You can search by several categories, including health topic and AAP grant program.



"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You"

-Dr. Seuss

12/1	Cristal Kirby, MD, FAAP	12/17	Mohana Geetha Ardhanari, MBBS
12/1	Abbey Anne Lewis-Gallien, MD, FAAP	12/17	Alexa Bollinger, MD
12/1	Clifton Michael Vaughan, MD, FAAP	12/17	Billy Branch, MD
12/2	Tessa Kleyn, MD	12/17	Daniel Richard Bronfin, MD, FAAP
12/3	Sarah Ashley Mike, MD	12/17	Maria Tere Vives, MD
12/3	Kristen Pontiff, MD	12/18	Elaine Stewart Bullock, MD
12/3	Thao Nguyen N Tran	12/19	Karen Marie Foti, MD
12/4	Diana Liz Arriola, MD	12/19	Julie Baham Gallois, MD
12/4	Francis N Donner Jr., MD, FAAP	12/19	John Blopoo Jr., MD, FAAP
12/4	J. Lindhe Guarisco, MD, FAAP	12/19	Richelle Monier, MD, FAAP
12/4	Charles Haydel Jr., MD	12/20	Robert Eldred Drumm, MD, FAAP
12/5	Kipp Burnette Ardoin, MD, FAAP	12/20	Lyle Stephenson, MD
12/5	Margaret Prat Huntwork, MD	12/22	Samantha Clark Gulino, MD, FAAP
12/5	Joseph Ortenberg, MD, FAAP	12/22	Mitchell Ira Rubin, MD, FAAP
12/6	Madeline Paige Lemoine	12/24	Allison Stacey Hatfield, MD, FAAP
12/6	Amy Prudhomme, DO	12/27	Alex Jerry Courville
12/6	Juan Salas, MD	12/27	Sarah Amanda Dumas, MD, FAAP
12/7	Induja Gunasekaran, MD	12/27	Brandon Javier Salgado, MD
12/7	Myria Audrey Mack-Williams, MD, FAAP	12/28	Tonjeh Mary Stella Bah, MD
12/9	Eric Chin, MD	12/28	Aimee Bergeron Ferrell, MD, FAAP
12/10	Neel Shah, MD, FAAP	12/29	Paul Cary Aguiard Jr., MD, FAAP
12/12	Ebenezer Sampong Bediako, MD, FAAP	12/29	Meena A. Bakare, MD
12/12	Angela Sherell Byrd, MD, FAAP	12/29	Cristina Elizabeth Shelton
12/12	Sajel Lala, MD	12/30	Jennifer Venier Hogan, MD, FAAP

12/13 Harvey Lee Carter, MD, FAAP
12/13 Danielle Eggie, MD
12/13 Lauren Green, MD
12/13 Anne Victoria Lachman
12/14 Ernest A. Kiel, MD, FAAP
12/14 Shanel Thompson, MD
12/15 Stephanie M Graebert
12/15 Vithavas Tangpricha, MD, FAAP
12/15 Brian Edward Zganjar, MD, FAAP

12/30 Amy Jo Howard, MD
12/30 Michael Ray Melancon, MD, FAAP
12/31 Michael Gary Heller, MD, FAAP

SUIDA Recipe: Antipasta Holiday Skewers

Nothing says party like appetizers on a stick. This combination of pasta, meat, cheese and veggies are practically a meal in itself. A crowd-pleaser for all ages!

Ease: Easy

Yield: 16 servings

Preparation time: 45 minutes

Source: Barb Liebenstein, Wolf Creek Dairy, Minnesota



Ingredients

1 (9 oz.) package cheese-filled tortellini, cooked al dente and cooled
1/2 cup fat-free Italian dressing
8 oz. block of reduced-fat Swiss cheese, cubed
2 cups baby spinach leaves
32 pieces turkey pepperoni
3.5 cups cherry tomatoes
16 wooden skewers (9-10 inches)

Directions

1. In a large bowl, marinate tortellini in Italian dressing for 30 minutes in refrigerator. To assemble skewers, start with two pieces tortellini, one cheese cube, two spinach leaves, one pepperoni slice (folded in fourths), one tomato and repeat again. (Each skewer will have total of four pieces tortellini, two cheese cubes, four spinach leaves, two pepperoni slices and two tomatoes.)
2. Repeat until 16 skewers are made.
3. Refrigerate until serving.

For more information and recipes visit www.southeastdairy.org

Upcoming Events

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals is excited to host an ADHD Symposium

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014
Bienville Building
628 N. 4th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802*

We welcome leaders and champions from areas of medicine, behavioral health, health plan management, education, family members, advocates, and government to learn more about ADHD medication rates for youth in Louisiana and the U.S., best practices surrounding proper utilization of ADHD medications, and begin the discussion of solutions on how to best serve Louisiana youth.

There is *NO COST* to attend. Website for registration and further information can be found at <http://www.dhh.la.gov/index.cfm/subhome/39>

As you may know, recent data has informed us that Louisiana ranks among the top 3 states in our percentage of youth diagnosed with ADHD, and we are number 1 in our level of prescribing ADHD-related medications for children. This information has provided cause for concern within our healthcare system, within our legislators, and among our citizens. It raises important questions: are we correctly identifying youth with ADHD? And, are we relying too much on medication for Louisiana's children, while neglecting alternative treatments and approaches to help our children manage their behavior and focus their attention? In response to these concerns, DHH has convened an ADHD Taskforce to think critically and creatively about ADHD diagnosis and treatment, and begin exploring both barriers and opportunities. We know that effectively helping our youth with their attention will require partners from all corners, from the doctor's office to the offices of the HMO, and from the home to the classroom. In that spirit, we would like to invite you to partner with us.

We will be kicking off these efforts at a symposium scheduled for December 9th in Baton Rouge; we invite you to join us then. We are seeking to bring together leaders in the medical field, in healthplan management, in behavioral and public health, and in education, family members, and political leaders. At this symposium we will offer the latest data on trends in ADHD diagnosis and treatment in Louisiana and in the nation, as well as nationwide trends and promising initiatives across multiple systems including prescriber's networks, healthplans, mental health and supportive services for children and families, and education. We need leaders from all of these sectors to join us and shape the discussion.

For more information please contact Heather Taylor at Heather.Taylor@LA.GOV

Tulane Saturday Pediatric Series

Hot Topics in Pediatric Pulmonary and Infectious Diseases
December 13, 2014

Registration 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Conference 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Presented by

Tulane University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics
and the Center for Continuing Education
Tulane University Health Sciences Center

Location



Ralph's on the Park
900 City Park Avenue
New Orleans, LA

Topics will include:

Update on Ebola and Influenza Viruses
The New Synagis Guidelines
Pneumonia Diagnosis and Treatment
Effects of Tobacco Smoke and e-Cigarettes on Children

This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*.

Registration Fee is \$35
Online registration is open at <http://tulane.edu/cce/>

Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget

Thursday, December 18, 2014 1:00 pm
House Committee Room 5

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. BUSINESS

1. Fiscal Status Statement and the Five-Year Baseline Budget
2. Avoidance of Budget Deficits in accordance with R.S. 39:75(C)
3. BA-7 Agenda
4. Facility Planning and Control - Capital Outlay Change Orders
5. Review and approval of Municipal Police Officers' and Firemen's back supplemental pay, as required by R.S. 33:2218.9
6. Review and approval of the High Level Pilot Procurement Autonomy for Louisiana State University & Agricultural and Mechanical College, as required by R.S. 17:3139.5

IV. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

V. ADJOURNMENT

THIS NOTICE CONTAINS A TENTATIVE AGENDA AND MAY BE REVISED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

NOTE: Copies of this notice are transmitted by the Office of the Clerk of the House in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Alfred W. Speer, Clerk

LAPEN'S 8th Annual Summit for Parenting Educators
Adverse Childhood Experiences: Parenting Education is Key

Wednesday, January 21, 2015, West Baton Rouge Conference Center in Port Allen, LA



9:00am - 3:30pm

A full day of presentations, networking, exhibits, and more!

Register now! Early bird rates end 12/31/14

Speakers:

Dr. Robert Anda, co-Principal Investigator with the ACE Study

Dr. Anda has conducted research in a variety of areas including disease surveillance, behavioral health, mental health and disease, cardiovascular disease, and childhood determinants of health. After spending 20 years as a research medical officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, he is now a Senior Scientific Consultant to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. He played the principal role in the design of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study and serves as its Co-Principal Investigator.

Findings from the ACE Study have been presented at Congressional Briefings and numerous conferences around the world. The ACE Study is being replicated in numerous countries by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is now being used to assess the childhood origins of health and social problems in more than 18 U.S. states.

Dr. Stewart Gordon, Community Health Solutions Louisiana

Dr. Stewart Gordon joined CHS-LA in January 2012 as Chief Medical Officer. Prior to joining CHS-LA, Dr. Gordon was a practicing pediatrician for eighteen years at Earl K. Long (EKL) Medical Center. His pediatric practice was largely focused on providing services to the Medicaid and uninsured population. He was involved in medical student and pediatric resident education throughout his tenure at EKL. Dr. Gordon's areas of interest include early brain development / early childhood, child advocacy / children's public policy, juvenile justice reform, prevention of child abuse and neglect and prevention and treatment of childhood obesity.

Register: <http://lapensummit2015.eventbrite.com>

Registration RATES:

\$40 through December 31, 2014

\$50 After January 1st, Registration Closes January 15th

Registration includes lunch!

Continuing education credit applications are in progress.

To view the flyer, [click here](#)

Questions? Call Lenell Young 225-218-5657 or lapen@selahec.org