

“I believe that an influenza  
shot can give me influenza or  
make me sick”

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**American Nurses Association**



# Myths and Facts

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- ❑ Important to address the myths
- ❑ Barriers to receiving vaccine
- ❑ Increase confidence in vaccine
- ❑ Understand influenza
- ❑ Understand vaccines
  - Injectable inactivated vaccine – TIV
  - Live attenuated influenza vaccine – LAIV
- ❑ Common Reactions
- ❑ Serious reactions – very rare
- ❑ Patient safety issue

# *ANA's Everyone Deserves A Shot at Fighting the Flu (2005)*

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- Concern of unacceptable low rates of vaccination amongst RN & other HCW
- Survey of ANA members
  - Campaign funded by GlaxoSmithKline
  - N=151
- Education component
- Access to vaccine and information
  - Supply issues
- Employer support

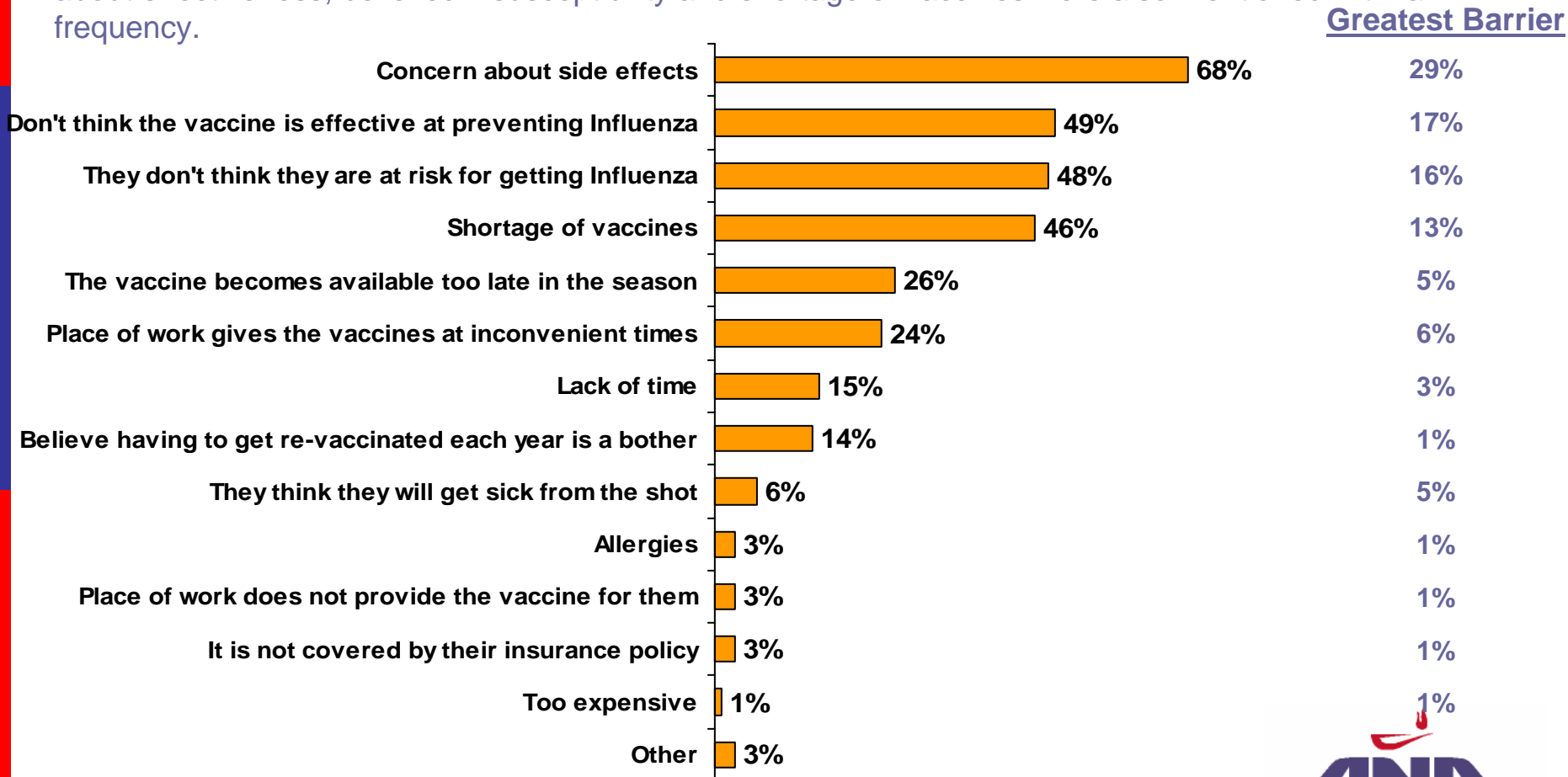
# ANA: Barriers to HCP Influenza Vaccination

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- ❑ Fear of vaccine side effects
- ❑ Insufficient time or inconvenience
- ❑ Perceived ineffectiveness of the vaccine
- ❑ Perceived low likelihood of contracting influenza
- ❑ Reliance on treatment with homeopathic medications
- ❑ Avoidance of medications
- ❑ Fear of needles
- ❑ Too expensive
- ❑ Shortage of vaccine
- ❑ Required annually

# Barriers to Co-Workers' Vaccination

The most common perceived barrier to co-worker vaccination is concern for side effects. Uncertainty about effectiveness, believed insusceptibility and shortage of vaccines were also mentioned with fair frequency.



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Base: Some coworkers were not vaccinated against influenza last year (n=143)

# ANA/CDC Barrier Comparison

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## □ ANA Barriers

**Fear of vaccine side effects**  
**Insufficient time or inconvenience**  
**Perceived ineffectiveness of the vaccine**  
**Perceived low likelihood of contracting influenza**  
**Reliance on treatment with homeopathic medications**  
**Avoidance of medications**  
**Fear of needles**  
Too expensive  
Shortage of vaccine  
Required annually

## □ CDC Barriers

**Fear of vaccine side effects**  
**Insufficient time or inconvenience**  
**Perceived ineffectiveness of vaccine**  
**Medical contraindication**  
**Perceived low likelihood of catching influenza**  
**Reliance on treatment with homeopathic medications**  
**Avoidance of medications**  
**Fear of needles**

# Other ANA initiatives

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- Recognition Campaign for “Best Practices in Seasonal Influenza Immunization Programs”
- Partnered with sanofi pasteur
- Developed brochure
- Articles written
- Recognition awards given

# Brochure

[www.nursingworld.org/](http://www.nursingworld.org/)

http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/OccupationalandEnvironmental/occupationalhealth/ - Microsoft Internet Explorer p

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67.8% Sign Find

### Communication and Education

- Develop a campaign slogan and logo.
- Provide communication and education via a wide array of tactics including mass emails, newsletters, conferences, health fairs, staff meetings, mandatory events, stickers, posters, flyers, bulletin boards, presentations, intranet, and screen savers.
- Mandatory computer-based learning modules.

### Planning and Tracking

- Develop a multidisciplinary group on the planning committee such as Nursing leadership, Employee Health, Epidemiology, Infection Control, Pharmacy, Risk Management and Hospital Administration.
- Track in an ongoing database providing results to department managers and key leadership.
- Consider using mandatory declination forms to identify reasons to refuse vaccine.
- Conduct a post-campaign evaluation including recommendations for the following influenza season


### Administrative

- Offer vaccination at a variety of times including all shifts and weekends, during work hours.
- Extend convenience by using mobile carts in high traffic areas such as the cafeteria, at health fairs, conferences, meetings, and on nursing units.
- Designate nurses on each unit to provide vaccination to co-workers.
- Provide vaccinations free of cost to all employees, including part-time and contract-ed, as well as, volunteers.
- Provide incentives such as candy, t-shirts, stickers, prizes or competition between departments.

### References

- American Nurses Association. *Everyone Deserves a Shot at Fighting Flu*, 2005
- American Nurses Association. *Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza*, 2006.
- CDC. Influenza Vaccination of Health-Care Personnel: recommendations of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). *MMWR* 2006; 55: 1-16.
- CDC. Prevention and control of influenza: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). *MMWR* 2007; 56:1-54.
- CDC. Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette in health-care settings. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2003. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resplygiene.h>

**Call (800) 274-4ANA**  
and ask for information about joining your state nurses association.





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## Best Practices in Seasonal Influenza Immunization Programs for Health Care Personnel



Occupational Health & Safety Series

Done Unknown Zone



# ANA Initiatives Continued

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- ❑ 2006 House of Delegates resolution, “Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza”
- ❑ Presentations
- ❑ Posters
  - Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Summit
- ❑ Collaboration
  - CSL Biotherapies
  - National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)
- ❑ Influenza Backgrounder Annually
- ❑ Website information

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