Influenza Activity Spotlight
2012–2013 Season
Issue #22 — July 1, 2013

Reminder: Summit calls are scheduled weekly every Thursday at 3 p.m. ET, unless cancelled. Please email L.J Tan or LaDora Woods if you have any updates on activities to provide to the Summit.

1. National Influenza Vaccine Summit Call - June 27, 2013
The June 27, 2013 Summit call featured summaries of the June ACIP meeting and the Summit’s post-meeting survey. A summary of the recurring themes from the survey is available. A presentation given to the National Vaccine Advisory Committee summarizing the information and actions from the May 2013 Summit was provided during the call. Reminder: Summit meeting materials, including the final agenda and most presentations, are available here.

2. The CDC/Influenza Division Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report for week 25 (ending June 22, 2013) is available here. This represents the final FluView for the 2012-2013 influenza season. (Note: As part of summer reporting, an abbreviated version of FluView will be available each week.) According to the final full FluView for the 2012-2013 season, U.S. influenza is at summertime levels in most of the country. However sporadic activity can occur year-round, and vaccination is still recommended for: institutional outbreak control; children needing their second dose; and some travelers going to the Southern Hemisphere, which will soon enter its influenza season. Compared to most previous seasons for which surveillance data are available, the 2012–2013 influenza season started about 4 weeks early and was intense. An Influenza Summary Update of the influenza activity reported by state and territorial epidemiologists indicates geographic spread of influenza viruses but does not measure the intensity of influenza activity. Archives of previous FluViews are available here.

3. Information from Families Fighting Flu!
July 1 is the last day to donate to FFF’s Challenge Campaign. Their generous Challenge Campaign donor still has funds to match every dollar they receive by midnight on July 1! They need your support to reach their $15,000 goal to fund their public education program. Donate by credit card online or send your check with the Challenge Campaign Response Form and return to FFF postmarked no later than July 1, in time to help millions more people this year! FFF thanks you so much for helping them save more lives in 2013!

4. First Cases of H3N2v Reported
CDC has provided key points regarding recent human infections with influenza H3N2 variant (H3N2v) virus infections in the United States and has posted a web spotlight summarizing this situation and the agency's recommendations.
5. More Information from CDC

On June 20, 2013, CDC presented updated interim influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE) estimates for the 2012–2013 influenza season during the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting in Atlanta, GA. Key points related to these updated estimates are available here.

On June 19, 2013, CDC influenza experts published a study that used a new method to measure the impact of the U.S. influenza vaccination program from 2005–2011 by modeling the number of illnesses, medically-attended illnesses, and hospitalizations averted by influenza vaccination. Key points for this study are available here.

6. New Research Finds Influenza Vaccine Effective Regardless of Strain Match

A new study published in BMC Medicine and performed at the St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto has indicated that despite strain mismatches, the influenza vaccine has proven effective in children.

7. Influenza-related Media Reports

- **Local 4-H Officials are Working to Prevent Incidents of Swine Flu Transmission** (Winchester News Gazette)
  Thirteen pigs at the 4-H fair in Grant County tested positive for a swine influenza virus (H3N2) and four human cases of variant influenza A (H3N2v) were detected among individuals who visited there, according to information released by State Board of ...

- **Researchers Find Influenza Increases Chances of Bacterial Pneumonia** (Vaccine News Daily)
  Researchers from the University of Michigan announced on Wednesday that influenza infection increases a person's susceptibility to bacterial pneumonia by 100-fold. Scientists have found inconsistent results when trying to find if influenza was ...

- **Flu Scan for Jun 28, 2013** (CIDRAP)
  They identified 2,831 patients admitted for GBS, 330 of whom received a flu vaccine and 109 of whom had an influenza-coded healthcare encounter 42 weeks or less before hospitalization. The risk of GBS within 6 weeks after vaccination was 52% higher ...

- **Vaccines Aimed at Young Could Break Transmission Cycle** (Dalles Chronicle)
  CORVALLIS — The huge value of vaccinating more children and young adults for influenza is being seriously underestimated, experts say in a new report, while conventional wisdom and historic vaccine programs have concentrated on the elderly and those ...

- **Vaxart Develops H7N9 Vaccine** (Vaccine News Daily)
  Vaxart announced on June 13 a successful preclinical trial of an oral H7N9 avian influenza vaccine just 20 days after receipt of the virus's gene sequence. The vaccine the privately-held pharmaceutical company developed induces strong hemagglutinin ...

- **No Link Found Between Vaccines and Nerve-Damaging Condition** (Science News)
  Roger Baxter of Kaiser Permanente Northern California in Oakland, and his colleagues reviewed medical records from 1994 to 2006 of more than 3 million Kaiser members and found 415 diagnoses of GBS. Only 25 of these people had received any vaccine ...

- **Mosquitoes Bugging You? University of Manitoba Students Create an App for That** (mysask.com)
  Engineering student Rory Jacob says he and his colleagues came up with the idea after using similar technology to track traffic congestion and the spread of influenza. Being from Manitoba where mosquitoes are considered the province's "unofficial bird ...
**Plane Diverts to Edmonton with Sick Patient: Tests Show Man had H7 Flu** *(660 News)*
The Public Health Agency of Canada says an American man who ended up in an Edmonton hospital tested positive for previous infection with an H7 influenza virus. Canada's acting chief public health officer says the man is not currently ill with flu and ...

**Indiana Reports Four Human Cases of H3N2v Influenza, Advises Public to Protect ...** *(The Global Dispatch)*
Symptoms of variant influenza A include: fever, cough, sore throat, chills, headache and muscle aches. Diarrhea and nausea may occur in children. Symptoms can begin approximately one to four days after being exposed to the illness and last from two to ...

**Swine Flu Predominant, but 'No Need to Panic'** *(Independent Online)*
A nurse holds a bottle of the Pandemrix H1N1 flu vaccine and a bottle of the vaccine’s adjuvant at a health centre in Burgos. NICD spokeswoman Nombuso Tshabalala said while there had been a spike in the number of swine flu cases, this was 'not an ...

**Weekly Overview: Even Low-Pathogenic Avian Flu Impacts the Poultry Industry** *(ThePoultrySite.com)*
ANALYSIS – As the Chinese poultry industry counts the cost of the recent avian flu outbreak there, a chicken in Arkansas has tested positive for another low-pathogenic bird flu virus. Even if the infection can be contained quickly - which is a real ...

**Fair Warning for Fairgoers: Be on Guard for Swine Flu** *(Fort Wayne Journal Gazette)*
Summer season is county and 4-H fair season, and while everyone is encouraged to take in the fun, state health officials are cautioning Hoosiers to take precautions against a strand of swine flu that might be making the rounds. Pig wrestling is one of ...

**Protect Yourself Against Swine Flu at Fairs** *(The Courier-Journal)*
In 2012, Indiana reported 138 cases of this type of swine flu — more than a third of the 309 infections the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported nationally. None of last year's cases were in Kentucky, but 107 were in Ohio. The ...

**Binge on Monsoon Veggies to Play the Flu** *(Times of India)*
PANAJI: Think twice before you reach out for that crispy golden bhajiya or dosa or those oil-soaked samosas served with chutney this monsoon. They may be the best possible munchies to wash down with a steaming cup of tea on a rainy day, but deep-fried ...

**Scientists Warn of Possible H7N9 Rebound** *(China Digital Times)*
The H7N9 strain of bird flu appeared in China in February, claiming its first casualties in March. So far, there have been 130 recorded infections and 37 deaths. While anxiety over the spread of the virus is easing after recent evidence has shown its ...

**Poultry Owners' Steps to Keep Flocks Secure** *(Lovely County Citizen)*
"With a case of avian influenza being investigated by the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission at a Scott County poultry farm, now is a good time to remind flock owners of measures to take to prevent the spread of any disease," Clark said. The ...

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8. **Don't Forget to Update and Submit to the New Adult Vaccine Locator!**
The new Adult Vaccine Finder is now available! Please forward the following information to immunization providers with whom you work!

  **Attention Immunization Providers:** If you are interested in letting the public know about vaccines offered at your practice or clinic, go to [http://vaccine.healthmap.org](http://vaccine.healthmap.org). This site already includes more than 54,000 locations that provide flu shots and has provided this information to 500,000 users from the general public. On January 28, 2013, the site expanded to include 10...
additional adult vaccines. If you want to register your location on this website, click on the “about” button on the top right hand side and follow the prompts to register, or go to https://flushot.healthmap.org/admin/signup.

9. Summit Website Offers Wonderful Resources on Influenza Vaccination!
   Remember to visit the Summit website for the latest on influenza immunization resources and to view archived copies of the weekly updates.