PUBLIC SECTOR FLU VACCINE PURCHASES

- Each influenza season, a key challenge involves protecting patients as early as possible, before disease peaks and while public demand is high.

- CDC purchases flu vaccines for the VFC and Section 317 programs on behalf of the 64 state/local immunization programs it funds using its vaccine purchase contracts, which require:
  - Submission of a proposed shipment timeline
  - Equitable treatment of governmental and non-governmental customers in the event of shortage/delay
  - CDC also requests that manufactures plan shipments to achieve equity across depots
Vaccine distribution in the VFC and Section 317 programs is carried out by a centralized vaccine distributor:

- As vaccines are received at the distribution depots, CDC enters allocations for all state/local immunization programs who pre-booked the vaccine.

- CDC uses allocations to ensure that each program receives a proportionate share of the doses available.

- Timeframe for receiving and allocating vaccines within CDC’s vaccine order management system to reflect available doses is ~ 1-2 business days.

- Once allocations are available, state/local immunization programs can then submit/approve provider vaccine orders.
MID-SEASON SNAPSHOT OF 2016-17

- During the 2016-17 season, CDC analyzed influenza vaccine throughput for its state/local immunization programs.
- For each of four vaccines, we determined the percentage that had been used to submit provider orders out of the total doses that had been allocated to the state/local immunization program.

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\text{Throughput} = \frac{\text{Number of doses of vaccine #1 ordered}}{\text{Number of doses of vaccine #1 allocated}}
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- The analysis was carried out in late October and late November.
- We found variability across immunization programs for all four vaccines at both times.
- To better understand the variability, we contacted 25 immunization programs to learn more about how they manage influenza vaccine ordering and allocation.
- We identified some differences across immunization program approaches but also received feedback regarding the limitations of our analysis, e.g., school clinics.

PLANNING FOR 2017-18

- CDC sponsored a webinar in January 2017 in which several immunization programs shared the processes they use to manage influenza vaccine distribution and lessons learned.
  - Webinar occurred during the 2017-18 public sector pre-booking process.

- CDC will provide similar feedback about influenza vaccine throughput to immunization programs during the 2017-18 season.
  - All influenza vaccines will be included.
  - Feedback will be provided monthly during the vaccine distribution season.