Summary of 2019-2020 Influenza Season

- Influenza activity during the 2019-20 season was characterized by two consecutive waves of activity, the first driven mostly by influenza B/Victoria viruses and the second driven by Influenza A (H1N1)
- 174 Pediatric deaths were reported to CDC for the 2019-2020 season
- The preliminary 2019-2020 burden estimates are:
  - 39,000,000-56,000,000 flu illnesses
  - 18,000,000-26,000,000 flu medical visits
  - 410,000-740,000 flu hospitalizations
  - 24,000-62,000 flu deaths

Increasing Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Coverage to Decrease Healthcare Utilization, 2020-21

- SARS-CoV-2 and influenza viruses are likely to co-circulate in the Fall and Winter
- Increasing flu vaccination coverage will decrease stress on healthcare
- Focus on adults at higher risk from COVID-19
- Staff and residents of LTCF
- Adults with chronic underlying illnesses
- Adults 65 and older
- African-Americans, Hispanics
- Adults who are part of critical infrastructure

Influenza Vaccination Planning for 2020-2021 Season

- Maximize available vaccine supply
- Operational considerations
  - Outreach to those at higher risk
  - Additional infection prevention control measures
  - Considerations of potential need for social distancing
- Enhancing communication
  - Align with COVID messaging
  - Tailored messaging to higher risk groups, including African American and Hispanic communities

Guidance to Safely Provide Immunization Services

- Correlates with CDC Framework for Providing non-COVID-19 Clinical Care*
- Includes considerations for use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Consideration of various clinical settings for vaccine administration
- Special focus on priority populations for influenza vaccine
  - Those at high-risk for influenza-related complications
  - Those at high-risk for severe COVID infection
  - Essential workers
- Language aligned with COVID-response websites


Thank you!