

Flu Immunization Uptake Update

NAIS Summit Partners Call

12/2/21

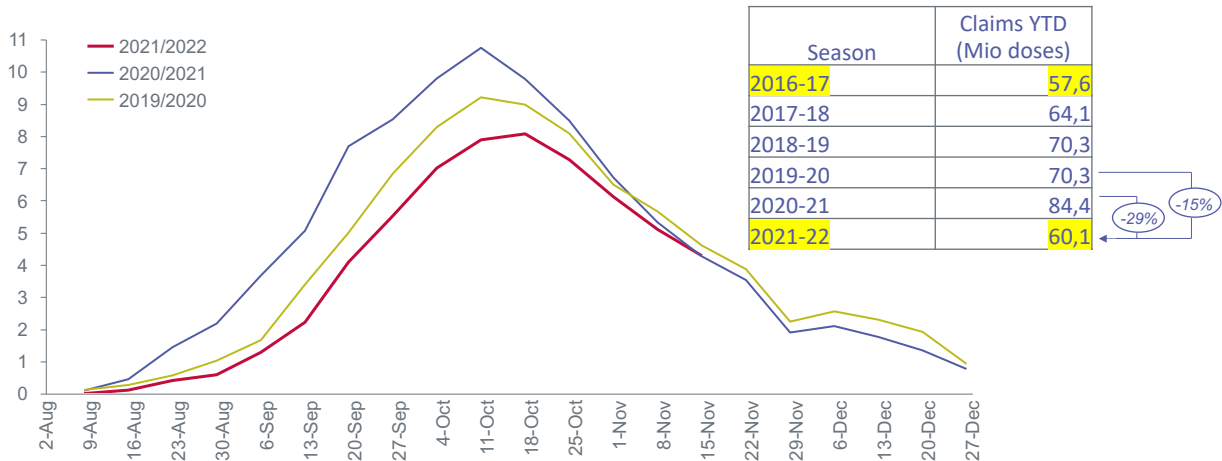


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Lowest immunization rates since 2016 Anticipated extension of the season has not materialized

Weekly Total Claims [Millions doses]



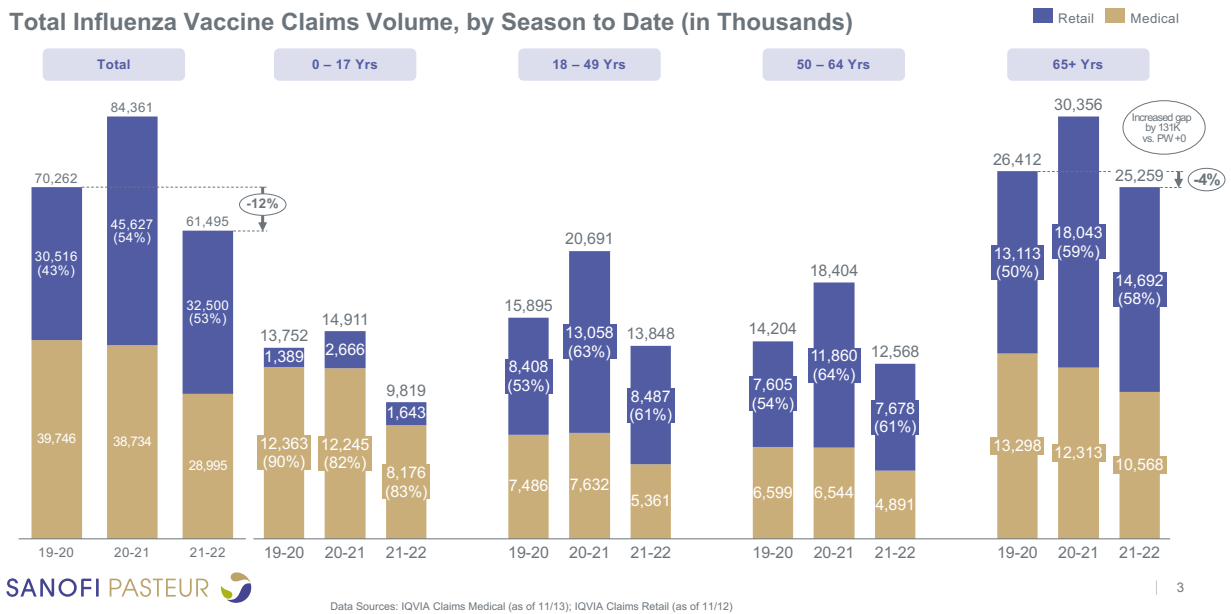
Data Sources: IQVIA Claims Medical (as of 11/06); IQVIA Claims Retail (as of 11/05)

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Claims remain down across all age groups, most notably pediatrics

Total Influenza Vaccine Claims Volume, by Season to Date (in Thousands)



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CDC has issued an early HAN on influenza

Increasing Seasonal Influenza A (H3N2) Activity, Especially Among Young Adults and in College and University Settings, During SARS-CoV-2 Co-Circulation



Distributed via the CDC Health Alert Network
November 24, 2021, 11:00 AM ET
CDCHAN-00458

Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about increased influenza A(H3N2) activity that could mark the beginning of the 2021-2022 influenza season. The purpose of this HAN Health Advisory is to

- 1. Remind public health practitioners and clinicians to recommend and offer the current seasonal influenza vaccine to all eligible persons aged six months and older (Flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine can be given at the same visit).**
- Remind clinicians to consider testing for both influenza virus and SARS-CoV-2 in patients with influenza-like illness (ILI).
- Advise clinicians that antiviral treatment is recommended as early as possible for any patient with confirmed or suspected influenza who is: a) hospitalized; b) at higher risk for influenza complications; or c) developing progressive illness. In patients with suspected influenza, decisions about starting antiviral treatment should not wait for laboratory confirmation of influenza, however COVID-19 should be excluded if a rapid assay is available.
- Remind public health practitioners and clinicians to consider mitigation measures including antiviral post-exposure prophylaxis during influenza outbreaks in institutions (e.g., long-term care facilities, university dormitories) in the setting of co-circulation of SARS-CoV-2.
- Remind the public to use non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI) or everyday preventive actions, in addition to getting a flu vaccine. Everyday preventive actions include staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often.

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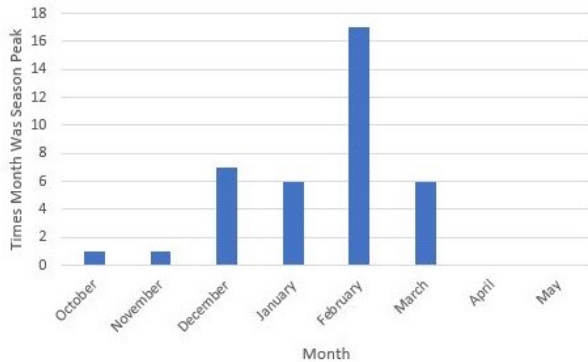
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There is still time to immunize patients this season as flu activity begins to rise and approach historical peak in February



Flu Activity By Month in the U.S. for the 1982-1983 through 2019-2020 Flu Seasons



During this 38-year period, **flu activity most often peaked in February**, followed by December, January and March, respectively.¹

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Encourage providers to stay engaged

It is not too late to immunize and be immunized – keep offering the flu shot!

- **Reach out to patients** who have not received influenza this year. Remind them why getting influenza this year is important for their health
- **Use COVID-19 vaccination** and boosters to co-administer influenza per the ACIP recommendation, or, if the patient declines, schedule a visit in the very near future for their influenza immunization and follow-up with them to ensure they are immunized
- **Use the many tools available** to help providers, staff, and patients on sites such as CDC.org and Immunize.org

Process reminders and encouragement for providers to remain engaged in influenza administration to extend the immunization season are the most effective messages

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