



National Influenza Vaccine Summit

Influenza Activity Spotlights

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Issue #8

Professional Medical Organizations

Please disseminate widely to all of your members.

1. A recent presentation at the American Public Health Association meeting in Denver, CO, suggests that employment-based influenza immunization has economic benefits. Specifically, the analyses show that getting an employee immunized in November instead of December can save an employer between \$63 and \$95 per person. Vaccinating an entire firm of 150 employees earlier could save a business between \$9,450 and \$14,250. A news report on the study is available [here](#).
2. Trust for America's Health has released a short issue report, entitled "[Fighting Flu Fatigue](#)" on influenza policies. The report illustrates the significant differences in the H1N1 hospitalization rates and vaccination rates for minorities compared to Whites. It also includes data and lessons learned from the H1N1 pandemic. The report also outlines recommendations for future flu policies – including ways to build on the momentum from the H1N1 response to increase vaccination rates and preparedness for health emergencies.
3. Olympic Gold Medalist, former "Dancing with the Stars" winner and *Faces of Influenza* spokesperson, Kristi Yamaguchi, joined the American Lung Association, Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C), CVS Caremark and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to kick off the 2010-2011 influenza season in Cleveland at a press briefing and flu clinic held today. This is part of the ALA's Faces of Influenza Campaign. To read a press release on the event, click [here](#).

A comprehensive website, www.facesofinfluenza.org, is available for the public and healthcare providers to find more information about influenza and the importance of immunization. Visitors to the site also can view the photographs and read the stories of the featured "faces" of influenza.

If your organization would like to support the goals of the *Faces* program, please contact Mary Havell at MHavell@lungusa.org.

4. A recent [study](#) published in the *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, found that infants whose mothers receive influenza vaccines during pregnancy are less likely to be infected with influenza or hospitalized for respiratory illnesses in their first six months of life. An [editorial](#) on this issue by Kathy Neuzil, MD and Justin Ortiz, MD, was also published in the *Archives* journal. To read a news report, click [here](#).