



# National Influenza Vaccine Summit

## *Influenza Activity Spotlights*

Tuesday, August 17, 2010

Issue #3

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### Professional Medical Organizations

Please disseminate widely to all of your members.

#### 1. **MedImmune provides update on vaccine supply**

MedImmune, the manufacturer of FluMist (the intranasal influenza vaccine indicated for ages 2-49 years), began shipping on July 23, 2010. Based on early reports, provider and patient interest in FluMist is strong at this point in the season, and it is expected to increase as more parents are made aware of FluMist as a vaccination option for them and their families through various in-season communication.

Based on current projections MedImmune anticipates having approximately 3-4 million more doses available to the market - this amount is in addition to the currently placed pre-book, CDC and other incremental orders. Additional orders, above initial pre-booked doses, will be available starting in late September. Please contact authorized FluMist distributors if interested.

#### 2. **Novartis provides update on vaccine supply**

Novartis is on track to deliver ~40 million doses this season and anticipates that more than 85% of the doses should be delivered by the end of September. Novartis is no longer taking direct orders but Fluvirin is available through licensed distributors. Novartis has also made an [announcement](#) regarding the tip caps of the pre-filled syringes of 2010/2011 FLUVIRIN and AGRIFLU influenza vaccine containing natural rubber latex.

#### 3. **Providers should administer 2010-2011 trivalent seasonal vaccine and use seasonal influenza CPT codes to seek payment**

At this time, both the trivalent 2010-2011 seasonal vaccine as well as remaining 2009 H1N1 monovalent pandemic vaccine is available to healthcare providers. Since the trivalent seasonal vaccine provides protection against 2009 H1N1 influenza as well as two other seasonal strains of influenza, it is preferable to immunize patients with the new seasonal vaccine.

After administering seasonal trivalent influenza vaccine, please remember to use the appropriate CPT codes for reimbursement. Do NOT use the pandemic 2009 H1N1 codes established last season to seek payment for 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccines and its administration.

The Immunization Action Coalition has developed a [handout](#) that lists the 2010-2011 influenza vaccines by manufacturer and the corresponding CPT codes.

Only the following codes should be reported for the 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine products:

- 90655 Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, preservative-free, for children 6–35 months of age, for intramuscular use
- 90656 Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, preservative-free, when administered to 3 years of age and above, for intramuscular use
- 90657 Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, 6–35 months of age, for intramuscular use
- 90658 Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, 3 years and older, for intramuscular use
- 90660 Influenza virus vaccine, live, for intranasal use

And here are the administration codes:

*Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Code G0008:* Administration of influenza virus vaccine.

*CPT code 90471:* Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); one vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid).

*CPT code 90473:* Immunization administration by intranasal or oral route; one vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid).

*CPT code 90465:* Immunization administration younger than 8 years of age (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections) when the physician counsels the patient/family; first injection (single or combination vaccine/toxoid), per day.

*CPT code 90467:* Immunization administration younger than age 8 years (includes intranasal or oral routes of administration) when the physician counsels the patient/family; first administration (single or combination vaccine/toxoid); per day.

**4. Joint Commission announces 13% increase in healthcare worker influenza immunization rates!**

On August 17, 2010, the Joint Commission Resources (JCR) announced the successful results of its second annual *Flu Vaccination Challenge* and urges participation in the upcoming third annual [Challenge](#). Participating healthcare organizations reached a 76 percent influenza vaccination average, a 13 percent increase over the average reported for last year's challenge and 27 percent above the national average! A [press release](#) was issued to highlight these accomplishments.

**5. Summit's Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System (IVATS) is now live and operational!**

As many are aware, each season the Summit hosts IVATS, which serves to connect providers seeking influenza vaccine to distributors and manufacturers (those who sell direct to customers) who have influenza vaccine. For more information, please visit [www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats](http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats).

**6. American Pharmacists Association (APhA) issues release urging consumers to get vaccinated against influenza**

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) is encouraging consumers to get immunized against influenza and to consider their local pharmacy as the site to receive their vaccine. Pharmacists in all 50 states, including the District of Columbia, are authorized to administer influenza vaccines. As of June 30, 2010, more than 120,000 U.S. pharmacists have been trained to administer immunizations. A [news release](#) was issued to explain the campaign.

**7. FFF Enterprises releases statement supporting National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM)**

NIAM is an event designated to help increase awareness about immunizations across population lines, from infants to the elderly. FFF Enterprises, a distributor of vaccines and critical-care biopharmaceuticals and Summit member, has announced its support of NIAM through a [press statement](#).