



National Influenza Vaccine Summit

Influenza Activity Spotlights

Monday, February 28, 2010

Issue #15

Professional Medical Organizations

Please disseminate widely to all of your members.

1. **Summit Presentation to the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC)**

On February 16, 2011, L.J. Tan provided a presentation to the NVAC summarizing the findings from two snapshot surveys, [one performed by the AMA](#) and the [other by the Summit](#). Thanks to all the members of the Summit who responded. The presentation was well received and also received some coverage by the media, including Medscape. As you can see, the data, while only providing a snapshot and with the caveat of responder bias, support the CDC findings presented in a recent Summit conference call, which suggest that we are protecting more people against influenza this season by immunizing more people.

2. **Summary of National Influenza Vaccine Summit Call on Friday, February 25**

Lisa Grohskopf, MD, from the CDC, who staffs the ACIP's Influenza Working Group provided an update on the ACIP's activities specific to influenza. She mentioned that WHO had recommended no strain change for the 2011-2012 vaccine, and the FDA VRBPAC has voted similarly on Friday, February 25, recommending that the U.S. 2011-2012 vaccine remain similar in strains to the current vaccine. Go [here](#) to read about it in Medscape. Dr. Grohskopf also mentioned some of the upcoming directions for the Influenza Working Group, including a review of the egg allergy contraindication, in light of the recent reports from the AAAAI and others, continued review of safety information as it occurs, and reviewing any potential changes to the ACIP recommendation. However, at this time, there are no proposed changes to the ACIP influenza recommendations.

3. **ACIP presentation on febrile seizures and TIV**

At the February 23, 2011 ACIP session on vaccine safety, Frank DeStefano, MD, MPH, summarized data from the continued investigation into the possible signal of febrile seizures in children under 24 months and this season's TIV. His presentation noted that fever following vaccination in young children is a common event and can potentially increase the risk of febrile seizures. He pointed out that while frightening to parents and caregivers, febrile seizures in general, and following vaccination, have a good prognosis. Dr. DeStefano said that data suggest that the 2010-2011 TIV vaccine used in the U.S. is not associated with a significantly increased risk of febrile seizure in children 6-23 months *unless* administered concomitantly with PCV13 vaccine. He pointed out that possible contribution from other concomitantly administered vaccines remains to be determined. Finally, preliminary analysis indicates that the risk for febrile seizures for concurrent administration of TIV and PCV13 vaccines (+/- other vaccines) is likely comparable to the magnitude of risk after MMRV compared to MMR and VAR administered separately. The Vaccine Safety Datalink project will continue to monitor this issue until the end of the season.

4. ACIP releases statement on antiviral agents

As a reminder, the ACIP released [revised recommendations on the use of antiviral agents](#) on January 28, 2011. The statement is also available at:

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr6001a1.htm?s_cid=rr6001a1_w. In summary, the statement urges the empirical treatment as early as possible for any patient with confirmed or suspected influenza who 1) has severe, complicated, or progressive disease; 2) requires hospitalization; 3) is at higher risk for influenza complications; or 4) is non high-risk if early treatment can be given based on clinical judgment. The statement says that treatment should not be delayed (for example, while waiting for results of diagnostic testing) if clinically indicated.

5. National Influenza Vaccine Summit 2011 Meeting

The National Influenza Vaccine Summit meeting will be held May 9-11, 2011 in San Diego, CA. Final contractual arrangements are being completed with the hotel so stay tuned! The meeting will begin at 1PM on the 9th and end by 12:30PM on the 11th to facilitate same-day travel for those on the East Coast.

6. The CDC/Influenza Division [Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report](#) for the week ending February 19, 2011 shows that influenza is now widespread! The latest CDC influenza key points from February 25 can also be read [here](#). Archives of previous *FluViews* can be found at www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm.

7. NIVS Immunization Excellence Awards!

The National Influenza Vaccine Summit (NIVS) is soliciting candidates for the 2011 NIVS Immunization Excellence Awards. The 2011 awards recognize individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions towards improved adult, and/or childhood influenza vaccination rates within their communities during the 2010-2011 Influenza Season. A National Winner and Honorable Mention recipient will be selected for each award category. The winners will be presented with their awards at the National Influenza Vaccine Summit meeting to be held May 9-11 in San Diego. The national winner in each category will be invited to present their programs at the National Influenza Vaccine Summit meeting. To submit a nomination, go to <http://fs16.formsite.com/APhA/2011NIVSAwards>

8. European Scientific Working Group on Influenza (ESWI) President confirmed speaker at May Summit meeting

As part of the initiation of the official collaboration between the [European Union Influenza Summit](#) and the National Influenza Vaccine Summit of the United States, Dr. Albert Osterhaus, President of ESWI (the group coordinating the first EU Influenza Summit) has confirmed his attendance and willingness to present at the May Summit meeting. He will present on Tuesday afternoon on the issues the EU faces with regard to influenza immunization and the efforts that are being done to address those challenges. In exchange, L.J Tan will be presenting on the U.S. Summit at the May 26, 2011 EU Influenza Summit.

9. Summit Website Offers Wonderful Resources on Influenza Vaccination!

Remember to visit the [Summit website](#) for the latest on influenza immunization resources and for updates on the [May Summit meeting](#)!

Once again, thanks to all Summit partners for their continued support of, and participation in, Summit calls and eUpdates!