



National Influenza Vaccine Summit

Influenza Activity Spotlights

Monday, February 27, 2012

Issue #16

Professional Medical Organizations
Please disseminate widely to all of your members.

1. The **NIVS call** for February 23, 2012 was cancelled due to the ACIP Meeting. The next call will take place on March 1, 2012.

2. **Late Breaking News: FDA VRBPAC Votes to Change 2 of the 3 Strains for 2012–2013 Influenza Vaccine**

On February 28 the FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) voted 18–0 that the 2012–2013 seasonal flu vaccine used in the United States should include the same influenza A (H1N1) component included in the 2011–2012 vaccine, an *A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like* virus. For the second influenza A strain in the vaccine, the panel's vote was also unanimous, recommending that the influenza A (H3N2) component be replaced with an *A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2)-like* virus.

Finally, the panel voted 17–1 that that the influenza B strain be replaced with a *B/Wisconsin/1/2010-like* virus (*B/Yamagata* lineage). The current vaccine strain is a *B/Brisbane/60/2008-like* virus, a *B/Victoria* lineage strain.

Last week the WHO recommended including the *California* and *Victoria* influenza A strains and the *Wisconsin/Yamagata* influenza B strain in vaccines for the Northern Hemisphere for the 2012–2013 season.

Though it wouldn't be available for next year due to manufacturing challenges, the committee voted 17–1 in favor of eventually developing a quadrivalent vaccine that would incorporate both strains of influenza B.

More information about this decision is available in stories in the [Family Practice News](#) and [Medpage Today](#).

3. **The CDC/Influenza Division Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report** for Week 7, 2012 (ending February 18, 2012) is available [here](#). This site also includes maps of the ILINet State Activity Level and the [geographic spread](#) of influenza illness as reported by state and territorial epidemiologists. CDC's key seasonal influenza points for February 24 are available [here](#). Influenza activity in the United States continued to increase during the week ending February 18, with the percent of respiratory

specimens testing positive for influenza above 10% for the third consecutive week. [Archives](#) of previous *FluViews* also are available.

4. Influenza Telebriefing from CDC

On February 24 CDC hosted an influenza telebriefing with Dr. Joe Bresee, Chief of the Epidemiology and Prevention Branch, Influenza Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Disease. A [transcript](#) and audio recording of the telebriefing are available for review.

5. ONLINE REGISTRATION for the National Influenza Vaccine Summit (NIVS) and the National Adult Immunization Summit (NAIS) is NOW AVAILABLE!

[Online registration](#) for the NIVS and NAIS is now available. Persons planning to attend are asked to register online before April 27, 2012. On-site registration will be available after that date.

Hotel Registration -The meeting will be held at the J.W. Marriott Atlanta Buckhead located at 3300 Lenox Road, Atlanta, GA 30326. Participants may reserve a hotel room by visiting the J.W. Marriott Atlanta Buckhead [website](#) or by contacting the hotel directly at (800) 228-9290. The negotiated rate is \$149/night (single/double) and is valid until April 20, 2012. The Group Code for this rate is **fluflua**. The room rate is \$133/night for persons traveling on a government *per diem*. Federal employees will need to call the hotel to make reservations.

A **Draft Agenda** for both meetings and additional information is available [here](#).

6. Call for 2012 NIVS Immunization Excellence Awards Nominations - Deadline March 2, 2012

Nominations are being accepted through March 2 for the 2012 *NIVS Immunization Excellence Awards*. **Summit partners are asked to disseminate the following information as widely as possible.**

The National Influenza Vaccine Summit is soliciting nominations for the 2012 *NIVS Immunization Excellence Awards*. Nominations close on March 2. These awards recognize individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions towards improved adult and/or childhood influenza vaccination rates within their communities during the 2011-2012 influenza season. A national winner and honorable mention recipient will be selected for each of the four award categories listed below. Winners will be presented their awards at the National Influenza Vaccine Summit in Atlanta on May 15–17 and will be invited to provide a presentation to Summit attendees.

The *Immunization Excellence Awards* provide recognition in four categories:

- **Overall Season Activities** (activities related to early season and later season);
- **Healthcare Personnel Campaign** (community and/or institutional-based activities);
- **Immunization Coalitions/Public Health Community Campaign** (programs conducted within states and communities that demonstrate strong public and private collaboration); and
- **Corporate Campaign** (programs developed by communication/public relations organizations and/or supported by manufacturers, distributors or other for profit entities, such as multi-practice site companies.)

Click [here](#) to access complete information about the awards and the online nomination form.

7. Summit Website Offers Wonderful Resources on Influenza Vaccination!

Remember to visit the Summit [website](#) for the latest on influenza immunization resources, as well as archival copies of the weekly newsletters!