



What's the Buzz?

The Newsletter of the Bucks County Immunization Coalition

www.bucksimmunize.org

Summer 2009

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

H1N1 Influenza News

July 6, 2009

H1N1 Flu Info

U.S. Info ▶
Things You Can Do ▶
Plan & Prepare ▶
International Info ▶

HHS.gov CDC.gov

CDC'S NOVEL H1N1 WEB SECTION UPDATED

The CDC recently posted updated information to three sub-sections of its H1N1 Flu web section. Following are the titles and URLs of documents that have been posted since the June 29 issue of IAC Express.

From the "H1N1 FLU CLINICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE" SUB-SECTION UPDATE: Pregnant Women and Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus: Considerations for Clinicians http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinician_pregnant.htm.

From the "PODCASTS AT CDC" SECTION: Novel H1N1 Flu and Camp (English only; 2-minute run time; script available) <http://www2a.cdc.gov/podcasts/player.asp?f=13124>.

From the "H1N1 FLU (SWINE FLU): GENERAL INFORMATION" SUB-SECTION UPDATE: Novel H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu) and You (new Q&A: If I have a family member at home who is sick, should I go to work?) <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/ga.htm>. The home page of CDC's H1N1 Flu web section can be accessed from <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu>.

IAC has gathered important information related to H1N1 influenza in a new web section to make it easier to keep up to date with developments. To access this resource, go to: <http://www.immunize.org/h1n1>.

Influenza News from the Bucks County Health Department

The H1N1 flu virus ("swine flu") is a novel influenza virus that was first detected in people in the US in April 2009. As of today, Bucks County has confirmed 117 cases of the novel H1N1 flu virus and since April 2009, a total of 1,906 confirmed and probable cases of this same influenza have been identified in the Commonwealth. The mean age of these persons is 18 years, with a range of one month to 86 years. 60% of these cases have been between the ages of 5-19 years of age, and less than 2% have been in persons over the age of 65 years.

Flu viruses are spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose. There is no vaccine available right now to protect against H1N1 flu. There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza. Take these everyday steps to protect your health:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

If you get sick with influenza, CDC recommends that you stay home and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick. Put your used tissue in the waste basket. Cover your cough or sneeze if you do not have a tissue. Then, clean your hands, and do so every time you cough or sneeze.

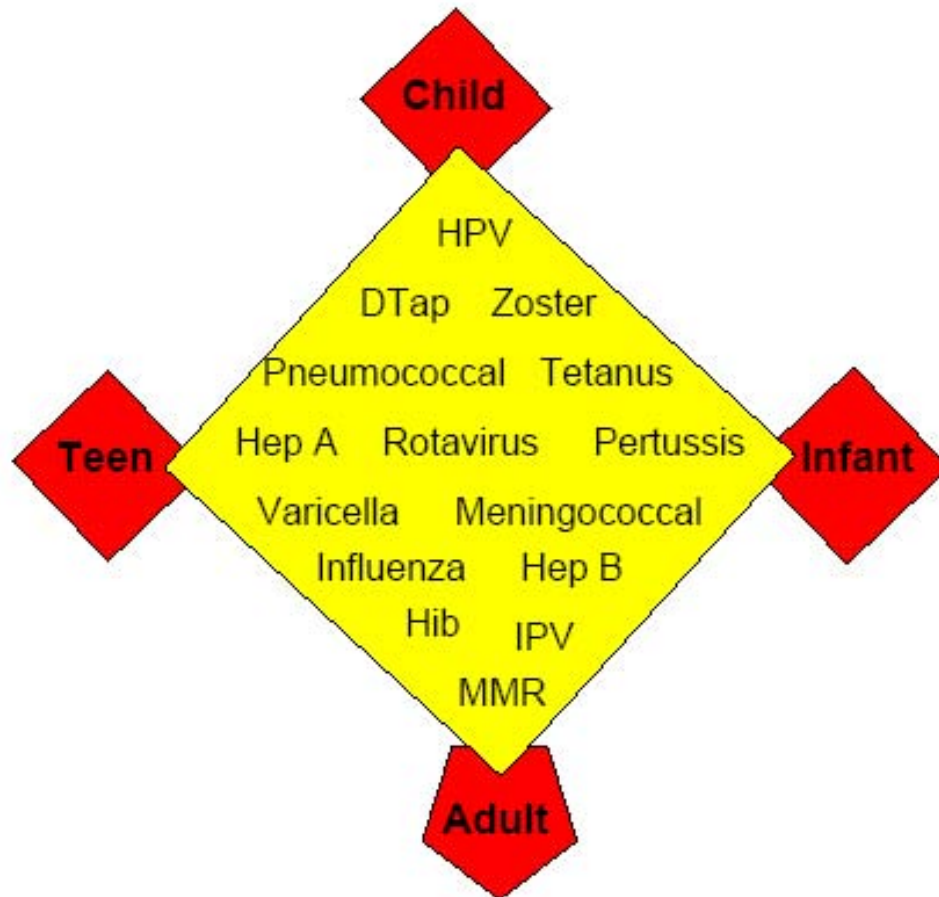
Make getting your flu shot protection a high priority this coming influenza season and discuss with your physician your health risks for other vaccinations like the pneumonia vaccine.



“Swing Into Fall Up-to-Date”



August 2009 is
National Immunization Awareness Month



**Does your
family have
all of their
bases
covered?**



Bucks County Immunization Coalition

Call your doctor or local health
department today to make sure
your family is UP-TO-DATE.
Bucks County Department of Health

Levittown office 215-949-5805 • Doylestown office 215-345-3344 • Quakertown office 215-529-7000

Reinstatement of the Booster Dose of Hib Vaccine at Ages 12-15 Months Effective Immediately

Recommendations

- Infants should receive their primary Hib series at ages 2, 4 and 6 months, and a Hib booster dose at 12 through 15 months of age.
- Older children for whom a Hib booster dose was deferred should receive the Hib booster at the next **routinely** scheduled visit or medical encounter.
- Mass recall of children for their catch-up Hib booster dose is **not** recommended because supplies are **not** adequate to support such an effort at this time.
- **Monovalent** Hib vaccine (ActHIB®) **should** be used for both routine booster doses and for those children whose Hib booster dose was deferred.

Children who need the Hib booster and who already have received 4 doses DTaP should receive monovalent Hib vaccine (ActHIB) as their Hib booster dose. However, if DTaP-IPV/Hib is the only Hib-containing vaccine available, this combination product can be used to complete the series of Hib vaccination, even if the child already has received all the necessary doses of DTaP and IPV.

Ordering

- PA VFC program will be monitoring providers' Hib vaccine orders in order to maximize doses available.
- When determining how much ActHIB® vaccine to order for the booster dose, providers should use their last month's order for a Hib-containing vaccine (whether Pentacel or ActHib) and then **increase** it by **one-third**. Providers should also order no more than the total number of doses they could administer in a one month period.
- Orders for Pentacel® will continue to be filled on a replacement basis (for the Hib primary series) until such time as sufficient supplies are available.



The Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association (PPA) recently launched an online pharmacy locator that the public can use to find local pharmacies which provide immunizations.

Many pharmacists are now certified to provide immunizations to any adult over 18 years of age and many community pharmacies are conveniently offering these vac-

PPA Launches Pharmacy Immunizations Locator

cines. Getting immunized in the pharmacy is convenient, safe, allows for one-on-one counseling with the pharmacist, provides another option for easily obtaining a life-saving vaccine, and all of the patient's medication and immunization records are at one location.

The Pharmacy Immunization Locator website lists those pharmacies which offer adult vaccinations, organized by each county in PA. The

page lists the pharmacy's name, its address, phone number, fax number, email address, hours of operation, and website link, if applicable. The page also includes information on adult vaccines including why someone should get vaccinated, which vaccines are typically available at pharmacies, which vaccines a patient should obtain, and how often. The public can access this webpage www.papharmacists.com/immunize.htm.

ADULT IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS NIGHT
with the
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES



Please join the Bucks County Immunization Coalition

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

As the Phillies host the **Arizona Diamondbacks**

CITIZENS BANK PARK

7:05 p.m.

Discount Tickets Available

Tickets (subject to availability) are located:

- Field Level Outfield- \$26.00 (Sections 140-148 & 101-107)
- Pavilion- \$20.00 (Sections 201-205)
- Pavilion Deck- \$14.00 (Sections 301-305)
- To order tickets online, go to:

www.phillies.com/immunization

Enter promotion Code: **AIAN**

(Adult Immunization Awareness Night) **to receive discount.**

Or call 215-463-5000 and mention Adult Immunization Awareness Night

**Bucks County
Immunization Coalition**



"Bee" A Member!

The Bucks County Immunization Coalition welcomes new members with a commitment to the health and welfare of Pennsylvania residents in Bucks County.

Coalition membership provides an opportunity to meet and work together with other community members who share a passion and desire to improve the health and well being of Bucks County.

Meetings take place at 1:30 pm on the third Wednesday of every month at the Bucks County Department of Health, Neshaminy Manor Center in Doylestown. Please RSVP to **Ann Gordon** at **215-345-3477** if you plan to attend.