



NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE SUMMIT NEWSLETTER

Influenza Activity Spotlights

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Issue 2

Professional Medical Organizations

Please disseminate widely to all of your members.

1. [Sanofi pasteur](#) and [Novartis](#) have both issued press releases confirming that they have started shipping vaccine. Both companies report being on track to deliver their predicted numbers of doses of vaccine for the season. Sanofi has estimated an available 50M doses and Novartis has estimated an available 40M doses. MedImmune is still awaiting FDA approval of their compliance to GMP and the new indication for FluMist.
2. As many are aware, CSL Biotherapies have submitted an application for influenza vaccine to the FDA. This application is currently pending but the FDA has approved the [attached](#) statement from CSL for distribution from September 1st, 2007.
3. National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) as announced at the April Summit meeting will be from November 26th through December 2nd. This annual campaign is designed to emphasize the benefits of immunizing with influenza vaccine after Thanksgiving. Tuesday November 27th will be specifically focused on influenza immunization of children. As part of this day, the CDC is planning specific media events to highlight programs that have had success in immunizing children, such as the Sacramento school-based immunization program. Partners are encouraged to also use Tuesday the 27th as a day to focus messages on the importance of immunizing children.
4. The Childhood Influenza Immunization Coalition (CIIC) co-chaired by Dr. Carol Baker and Dr. Richard Carmona had its first teleconference last week. This coalition's mission is **“to protect infants, children, and adolescents from influenza by communicating with ‘one strong voice’ the need to make influenza immunization a national health priority.”** The Summit will provide links to the resources created by this coalition on its web site and the CIIC will also list the Summit's website as a resource. A report from CIIC on childhood influenza immunization is [attached](#).
5. While the severity of the influenza season in the northern hemisphere cannot necessarily be predicted from what is occurring in the southern hemisphere, it is interesting to note that the southern hemisphere is having a severe influenza season (see [attached](#)). CDC is tracking the strains involved in the southern season and the overall disease epidemiology of the current southern influenza season.

6. As a reminder, the Summit's website has been updated and will continue to be updated to reflect the latest information on influenza immunization. Please visit, and direct your membership/partners to visit the Summit web site at <http://www.preventinfluenza.org>.
7. The Summit Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System is also updated and ready to accept enrollment from any wholesale distributor of influenza vaccine. Please visit: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/16919.html> for more information.
8. The CDC's media campaign for the upcoming influenza season is currently undergoing internal CDC approval. The program will likely have 4 points of emphasis:
 - a. The need to continue vaccination beyond the traditional months of October and November
 - b. Continued emphasis on the importance of vaccinating healthcare workers
 - c. Emphasis on protecting others through influenza vaccination (herd immunity)
 - d. Vaccination is recommended for persons, including school-age children, who want to reduce the likelihood of becoming ill with influenza or transmitting influenza to others should they become infected.

Once the CDC obtains internal approval of their campaign messages, more details will be made available to the Summit partners. At this time, the CDC (and multiple other Summit partners) will be presenting their messaging campaigns to the Summit's Executive Committee on a conference call on September 13th. This will allow partners to coordinate and unify messages for the upcoming influenza season. As can be seen, this season's messages from the CDC are remarkable consistent with the discussion that emanated from the Summit meeting in April.

9. The 2007 Annual Influenza/Pneumococcal News Conference sponsored by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases in partnership with the Summit will be held on September 19th, 2007. See the [attached agenda](#) and [report](#) with information from the NFID. The followings topics are currently scheduled to be discussed:
 - a. Americans Remain Complacent About Severe Influenza Virus; Increased Vigilance Needed to Prevent Disease – Presenter: CDC
 - b. Vaccine Administration Payment Encourages Providers to Immunize – Presenter: CMS
 - c. New Data Shows Need To Improve Low Vaccination Rates – Presenter: CDC
 - d. Pneumococcal Disease Prevention Must Improve to Help Reduce Vaccine-Preventable Hospitalizations and Death – Presenter: ACP
 - e. Growing Number of 50+ Caregivers; Vaccination Critical to Preventing Serious Illness for Themselves and Family Members – Presenter: AARP
 - f. Dramatically Low Influenza Immunization Rates Leave Children at Risk for Dangerous Influenza Virus – Presenter: AAP
 - g. Renewed Influenza Vaccination Efforts Needed To Expand Immunization Season – Presenter: AMA
10. On September 6th, the Joint Commission, OSHA, the Summit, and the CDC will be co-hosting an audio conference to improve influenza immunization rates in health care workers. Here is the information distributed by The Joint Commission for calling in and listening:

Dial-In Instructions:

- Dial (888) 810-0199 (International Callers, dial 01 (706) 634-5856). Mention Conference ID number listed above.
- We recommend calling 10-15 minutes prior to the start of the session.
- PLEASE NOTE: Only one phone connection per registration for each organization is allowed.
- Provide operator with the contact person listed on the registration form & the conference you will be joining.
- If you would like to participate in the Q&A session by asking a question, press * 1. To withdraw a question, press #.

Handouts:

- To access the hand outs for the conference, please visit <https://dep.trihost.com/store/files/ppts/DEP423.PDF>
1. Click on the link
 2. When you get prompted to open or save, please "save" to your local directory
 3. Once the file is saved, you can open it from your folder and view or print copies
 4. If you would like to include more than one slide per page when printing:
 - In Adobe Acrobat, go to File, Print
 - Choose Properties
 - A box will pop up with a "Layout" tab
 - Under "Pages per sheet" choose the desired number of slides per page. You have the choice of 1-16 or a booklet layout.
 - The handouts are best viewed using Adobe 6.0 and above. Updates are available for download at www.adobe.com
 - If you should have any trouble accessing the audio conference or hand out(s), please contact Customer Service Center at (877) 223-6866 (International Callers, dial 01 (317) 614-2511).

11. Every year the Immunization Action Coalition produces the Influenza Vaccination Pocket Guide in partnership with the Summit. This year's edition is in press. Please contact Diane Peterson at the Immunization Action Coalition (diane@immunize.org) if you would like to order copies for your constituents – they are FREE.