

VACCINATIONS ARE NOT JUST FOR KIDS!

NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK DECEMBER 2-8, 2012

*PLEASE JOIN CMS THIS
DECEMBER IN RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT SEASONAL FLU
PREVENTION WHILE ADDRESSING THE ADVANTAGES OF THE SEASONAL INFLUENZA VIRUS
VACCINE COVERED BY MEDICARE FOR ALL PART B BENEFICIARIES.*

Seasonal Influenza

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year.

Prevention: Flu Vaccine

Educate seniors and others with Medicare that a flu vaccination is the first and best way to prevent influenza, and that it's particularly important in people who are at higher risk of serious flu complications.

Protect Your Patients and VACCINATE

Medicare Part B covers one seasonal influenza virus vaccination per influenza season for all beneficiaries.

Medicare may cover more than one seasonal influenza virus vaccination per influenza season if a physician determines, and documents in the beneficiary's medical record, that the additional vaccination is reasonable and medically necessary.

A Medicare beneficiary pays nothing (no coinsurance or copayment and no Medicare Part B deductible) for the seasonal influenza virus vaccination, if he or she gets the vaccine from a Medicare-enrolled provider. Financial responsibilities may apply for the beneficiary for the administration of the vaccine if the provider does not accept assignment.

Provider Resources from the MLN

- [2012-2013 Seasonal Influenza \(Flu\) Virus Educational Products and Resources](#)
- [MLN Preventive Services web page](#) provides a list of available preventive services provider products created specifically for health care professionals

Other Provider Resources

- CMS has posted the [2012-2013 Seasonal Influenza Vaccines Pricing](#)
- [CMS Immunizations](#) web page
- For additional recommendations for the 2012-2013 Influenza season, please visit the CDC Influenza website <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>
- [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) is a free, online service where users can search for locations offering flu vaccines.

Thank you for joining with CMS in addressing the advantages of the Seasonal Influenza Virus Vaccination with Medicare beneficiaries.