



MLN Matters®

Information for Medicare Fee-For-Service Health Care Professionals



News Flash - Each Office Visit is an Opportunity. Medicare patients give many reasons for not getting their annual flu vaccination, but the fact is that there are 36,000 flu-related deaths in the United States each year, on average. More than 90% of these deaths occur in people 65 years of age and older. Please talk with your Medicare patients about the importance of getting their annual flu vaccination. This Medicare-covered preventive service will protect them for the entire flu season. And remember, vaccination is important for health care workers too, who may spread the flu to high risk patients. **Don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. Protect your patients. Protect your family. Protect yourself. Get Your Flu Vaccine - Not the Flu.** Remember – Influenza vaccine plus its administration are covered Part B benefits. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. For information about Medicare's coverage of the influenza vaccine and its administration, as well as related educational resources for health care professionals and their staff, please visit http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Flu_Products.pdf and <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/Immunizations/index.html> on the CMS website.

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Partial Code Freeze Prior to ICD-10 Implementation

Note: This article was replaced by MLN Matters® Article SE1240 on September 24, 2012. SE1239 updates the information regarding ICD-10 implementation. SE1240 is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1240.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services website.

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