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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Local Health Departments

FROM: Cynthia H. Robinson, CPC
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Division of Administration and Financial Management

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DATE: September 6, 2023

SUBJECT: Clinical Information and Instructions for Reporting and Billing Influenza Immunizations for the 2023-2024 Influenza Season

The Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) encourages all Local Health Departments (LHDs) to begin offering influenza (flu) vaccinations to all persons aged six months and older without contraindications as soon as influenza vaccine becomes available. To avoid a missed opportunity, please offer influenza vaccinations during all healthcare encounters.

The flu vaccine is designed to protect against the four strains of influenza virus that research indicates will cause the most illness during the flu season. Again, this year, quadrivalent (four component) vaccines are available to provide protection against influenza A(H1N1) virus, influenza A(H3N2) virus, and the two influenza B viruses.

For the 2023-2024 flu season, the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) recommends annual influenza vaccination for everyone 6 months and older without contraindications with any licensed age-appropriate flu vaccine including inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV), recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV4) or live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) with no preference expressed for

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any one vaccine over another. The LAIV nasal spray is approved for use in non-pregnant individuals without contraindications at 2 years through 49 years of age.

For more information about the CDC official comprehensive recommendations for the 2023-2024 influenza season, see the "[Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023–24 Influenza Season | MMWR \(cdc.gov\).](#)"

The most important thing is for all people aged 6 months and older to get a flu vaccine every year.

More information about the 2023-2024 flu season should be reviewed on the CDC website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/index.html>.

The protocols for the Administration of Inactivated Influenza Virus (IIV) Vaccine and Live Attenuated Influenza Virus Vaccine (LAIV) for the 2023-2024 Influenza Season are in the [Clinical Services Guide \(CSG\)](#). The protocol is part of the CSG and is effective when the physician signs the CSG. As a reminder, because protocols are authoritative statements requiring a physician's signature, the protocols for the 2023-2024 Influenza Season will need to be reviewed by LHD staff before administration of vaccine.

All healthcare workers in Local Health Departments should be offered annual influenza vaccine. The healthcare workers/employees who decline an immunization vaccine for any reason should be required to provide a signed declination.

All influenza immunizations should be reported through the Custom Data Processing (CDP) Clinic Management System (CMS) or Electronic Medical Records (EMR). All doses of VFC/317 vaccine must be reported in the KYIR. The immunizations may be reported on the Patient Encounter Form (PEF) or on the abbreviated consent/medical record and reporting form (Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Administration Record). These forms will be available on the Local Health Operations (LHO) webpage at: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dafm/lhob/Pages/default.aspx> in the *Updates and Alerts Section* for LHDs to review and print as needed.

Further, a **2023-2024 Seasonal Influenza Codes & Rates document** will be placed on the LHO webpage <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dafm/lhob/Pages/default.aspx> in the *Updates and Alerts Section* for LHDs to review and print as needed. Additionally, any updates/revisions should be viewed at this same LHO webpage section.

If you have any questions concerning the codes and rates, please *email* the LHO Branch at LocalHealth.HelpDesk@ky.gov or you may call (502) 564-6663, Option 1.

For questions concerning the VIS form or additional information about the influenza vaccine and protocols for administering the vaccine, contact the Immunization Branch at 502-564-4478.