



Public Health

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Dear Healthcare Facility Leadership:

As we approach the 2025–2026 respiratory virus season (November 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026), the health and safety of both healthcare personnel (HCP) and patients remain priorities. I want to make sure we all protect staff, patients, and the broader community. To do so, please review and implement the following practices:

- **Influenza Vaccination Requirements:**
[Under Health and Safety Code Section 1288.7\(a\)](#), all licensed healthcare facilities must offer the seasonal influenza vaccination at no cost to all HCP.
- **Vaccination or Written Declination:**
All HCP must either receive the influenza vaccination or, if they choose to decline, submit a written declination statement to their facility.
- **Mandatory Reporting to CDPH:**
Facilities are required to report HCP influenza vaccination data to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), including both vaccination and declination rates.
- **Facility Policy for Declinations:**
All healthcare facilities must have a documented mitigation plan in place for those who decline vaccinations to prevent HCP from transmitting influenza to patients. Such a plan may include requiring unvaccinated HCP to wear a mask for the duration of the influenza season, reassigning work activities, or other actions appropriate to the individual facility.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendation:**
In addition to influenza prevention, I also strongly recommend that all HCP stay up to date with the latest COVID-19 vaccinations, in accordance with CDPH guidance. COVID-19 continues to pose a risk to both staff and patients, particularly in high-risk healthcare settings.

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2025-2026 Vaccination Recommendations for COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV

Age/Condition	COVID-19	Influenza (Flu)	RSV
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 6–23 months• All 2–18 years with risk factors or never vaccinated against COVID-19• All who are in close contact with others with risk factors [1]• All who choose protection [1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 6 months and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All younger than 8 months [2]• All 8–19 months with risk factors
Pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum, or lactating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum, or lactating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 32–36 weeks gestational age [2]
Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 65 years and older• All younger than 65 years with risk factors• All who are in close contact with others with risk factors• All who choose protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 75 years and older• All 50–74 years with risk factors

For more information about influenza season and vaccination requirements, please visit the following websites:

- [Department of Public Health: Influenza](#)
- [California Department of Public Health: Influenza](#)
- [Vaccines for all \(CDPH\)](#)

We also encourage you to visit our [Influenza-Like Illness \(ILI\) surveillance dashboard](#) to view information such as the number of ILI-related hospitalizations, ER visits, and deaths due to influenza-related disease.

If you have any questions, please contact our Communicable Disease Section at 800-722-4794.

Thank you for your commitment to protecting the health of our communities.



Sharon Wang, DO, MSHPE, FIDSA

County Health Officer