

**TO: EZIZ Users**

**FROM: CDPH**

**SUBJECT: Prevent Flu in Older Adults**

**DATE: 11/21/17**

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**Adults over age 65 are at highest risk for severe influenza**, and are more likely to [die](#) or be hospitalized once ill. Having heart disease and diabetes further increases the risk of [heart attacks and stroke](#).

**Your strong recommendation for flu vaccination is critical.**

Use a statement rather than a question: “Flu can be very serious for people over 65. That’s why I’m giving you a flu shot today.”

**Stay informed about the latest [influenza guidelines](#) for older adults**

[High-dose](#) and [adjuvanted](#) formulations are available for older adults, whose immune systems can weaken with age.

There are several **new resources** available to help you educate your staff and patients:

- [Our Best Shot: The Importance of Vaccines For Older Adults](#) | [English with captions](#) | [Spanish](#) (Alliance for Aging Research). Play this 6-minute video in your waiting room.
- [A Quick Guide to Vaccination for Adults 60+](#) | [Spanish](#) (Alliance for Aging Research). More information for patients with questions.
- [Care For Older Adults? Care About Flu!](#) (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases). A toolkit designed to help talk to patients 65+ about annual flu vaccination. Consider using these [on-hold scripts](#) and [Learn What’s True About Flu](#) poster.

Visit these [CDC](#) and [CDPH](#) flu webpages for more information.

Thank you for protecting Californians against influenza.