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.
- 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.