



SONIA Y. ANGELL, MD, MPH
State Public Health Officer & Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

July 24, 2020

To: California's Community Health Centers (CHCs)
From: California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Immunization Branch
RE: Register by 8/8/20 to request additional, no-cost influenza vaccine for the 2020-2021 season

Thank you for caring for vulnerable Californians during the extraordinary challenges of COVID-19. Looking ahead to this fall, immunization against influenza will be critical to reduce illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths in the midst of the pandemic, thereby also relieving demands on our stressed health care system.

To assist you in coordination with your local health department, CDPH is distributing federally-purchased influenza vaccine to CHCs for patients regardless of insurance status. Interested CHCs must:

- be enrolled in the local Immunization Information System (registry, e.g., CAIR), and
- have proper storage, handling, and temperature monitoring, as already do CHCs in the VFC or VFA programs or which have received influenza vaccine from their local health department.

These additional doses, expected to be available between late September and December, are intended to increase the immunization efforts you have already planned and the supplies you have already purchased. CDPH recommends that you target older adults, persons with chronic diseases, and others who are very vulnerable to both influenza and COVID-19. Your efforts may include outreach, reminder-recall, standing orders, and dedicated immunization clinic sessions.

By August 8, 2020, please submit your request and information about your CHC at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KPPQ66J>. Please note that products and brands available for these doses are still being determined, and brand preference will be considered, as supply allows.

For more information, please contact Nisha Gandhi (Nisha.Gandhi@cdph.ca.gov). We look forward to working with you this fall to protect your patients against influenza.

Resources for immunization during the COVID-19 Pandemic

California Immunization Coalition:

- [#DontWaitVaccinate](#) communications campaign toolkit; messages specifically about influenza vaccine will be added in the coming months.
- Downloadable [influenza vaccine promotional materials](#) for providers

CDC: [Interim Guidance for Immunization Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Immunization Coalitions Network: [Maintaining Immunization during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

