

**EPI Update for Friday, September 12, 2014
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **The temperature is dropping and viruses are warming up**
- **Flu vaccine update**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

The temperature is dropping and viruses are warming up

This is an opportune time to encourage your patients to get back to the basics.

Prevention of EV-D68, influenza, and many other viruses and bacteria call for the same measures:

- Perform hand hygiene
- Cover your cough
- Stay home when ill
- Avoid ill persons when possible
- Get your flu vaccine
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Disinfect high touch items
- Get plenty of sleep

Flu vaccine update

CDC recommends an annual flu vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older. Flu activity usually begins to increase in October and most commonly peaks between January and March. It is recommended that flu vaccine be administered as soon as it becomes available, before influenza virus begins circulating in the community. According to the CDC, approximately 40.8 million doses of the 151 to 159 million doses projected to be produced this season have been distributed as of 9/5/14. Vaccine manufacturers estimate 78 million doses of the projected production will be quadrivalent flu vaccines. Influenza vaccine distribution information is available at www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/vaccinesupply.htm.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Save the Date for 2014 Vaccine University:

The Iowa Immunization Program will be offering Vaccine University trainings October through December 2014. Training topics will include Vaccine 101; Vaccines for Children Program Updates; Storage and Handling; and the HPV Vaccine Initiative and Call to Action. The training is designed to be of interest to all health care professionals and

anyone who is responsible for vaccine accountability, storage and handling or administration of vaccines. The training is offered free of charge. Registration will include lunch, course materials and continuing education credits (CEUs). CEUs are pending for nurses, pharmacists and certified medical assistants (CMAs). Registration information will be forthcoming.

October 2014

October 8: Sioux City – St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center

October 10: Dubuque – Mercy Medical Center

October 14: Council Bluffs – Jennie Edmondson Hospital

October 20: Marengo – Marengo Memorial Hospital

October 27: Spencer – Spencer Municipal Hospital

October 29: Mason City – Mercy Medical Center

October 31: Creston – Greater Regional Medical Center

November 2014

November 4: Fairfield – Jefferson County Memorial Hospital

November 7: Fort Dodge – Unity Point Health Center

November 17: Cedar Falls – Satori Memorial Hospital

November 19: Davenport – Genesis Health System

December 2014

December 2: Des Moines – Mercy Medical Center (Onsite training and Tele-med option available)

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology

Iowa Department of Public Health

800-362-2736