



VENTURA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Protecting Health - Promoting Wellness

Monthly Immunization Update

September 2024

Greetings Ventura County Schools and Partners,

This newsletter is meant to keep you updated on issues related to vaccines quickly and easily and maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. Thank you!

How To Clean and Disinfect Schools To Help Slow the Spread of Flu



Cleaning and disinfecting are part of a broad approach to preventing infectious diseases in schools. To help slow the spread of influenza (flu), the first line of defense is getting vaccinated. Other measures include staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often. Below are tips on how to slow the spread of flu specifically through cleaning and disinfecting.

Learn more

[Take Action to Fight the Flu](#)

[Guidance for School Administrators to Help Reduce the Spread of Seasonal Influenza in K-12 Schools](#)

[Antimicrobial Products Registered for Use Against the H1N1 Flu and Other Influenza A Viruses on Hard Surfaces](#)

[Green Clean Schools \(Healthy Schools Campaign\)](#)

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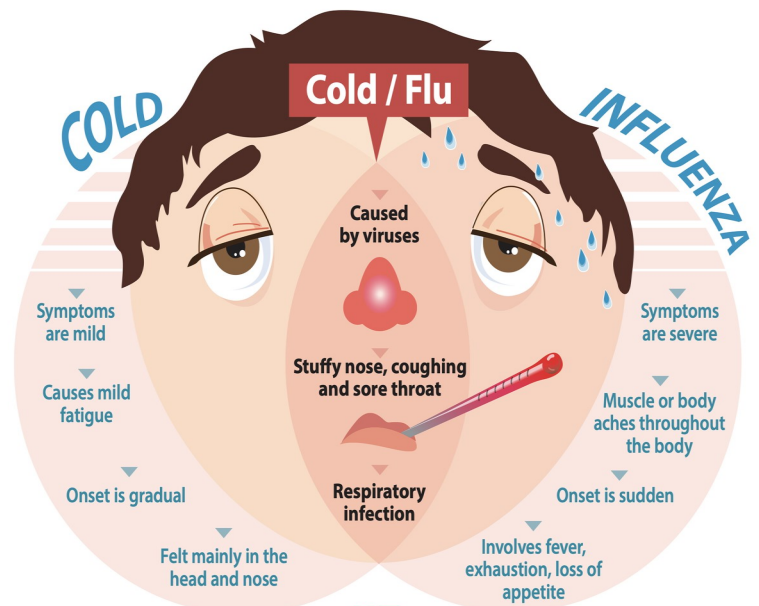
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[Interim Guidance on Environmental Management of Pandemic Influenza Virus \(HHS\)](#)

[National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities \(NCEF\)](#)

Do you have the Flu?

According to the CDC, flu vaccines reduce the risk of flu illness between 40% and 60% among the overall population during seasons when most circulating flu viruses are well-matched to the flu vaccine.



Communicating the Benefits of the Influenza Vaccine

Influenza (flu) severity varies from year to year, but flu season always brings serious consequences. While the 2020–2022 flu seasons were mild due to COVID-19 prevention measures, flu-related hospitalizations returned to pre-pandemic levels during the 2022–23 season. Although flu outbreaks are unpredictable, vaccination is the best protection for any influenza season. Flu vaccination is the best way to prevent flu and its complications. Everyone age 6 months and older is recommended to get a yearly flu vaccine. This can markedly lower the risk of influenza-related illness, hospitalization, and death. Take advantage of every opportunity to make a strong recommendation for flu vaccine and other vaccines your patients may need, such as COVID-19, RSV, and pneumococcal vaccines. Flu vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

CDC estimates the annual impact of flu from 2010–2023* ranged from:

9–41 million
flu **illnesses**



4–21 million
flu **medical visits**



100,000–710,000
flu **hospitalizations**



5,000–52,000
flu **deaths**



*excludes 2020–21 season when flu cases were limited due to COVID-19 pandemic prevention efforts

SOURCE: CDC Disease Burden of Flu (www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/index.html)

Updates & Reminders!

- Ventura County Public Health's Immunization Program will be hosting free Flu Pod events open to the public on the following dates:
 - Sunday, September 29th, 9:00am - 3:30pm at Oxnard College
4000 S. Rose Ave. Oxnard, CA 93033
 - Wednesday, October 9th, 2:00pm - 7:00pm at Sheridan Way Elementary School
573 Sheridan Way. Ventura, CA 93001
 - Tuesday, October 15th, 4:00pm - 8:00pm at Our Lady of Guadalupe
427 N. Oak St. Santa Paula, CA 93060

Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program

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We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

or follow us on



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