

HQIC Weekly COVID Office Hours – Infection Prevention Chats

Welcome!

- Please ask any questions in the chat
- Please actively participate in discussions
- Lines will be muted upon entry

We will get started shortly!

Making Health Care Better *Together*

COLLABORATORS:

Alabama Hospital Association
Alliant Health Solutions
Comagine Health
Georgia Hospital Association
KFMC Health Improvement Partners
Konza

Hospital Quality Improvement

Welcome from all of us!



Facilitator



Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN, CIC

INFECTION PREVENTION SPECIALIST

Amy is a registered nurse with a diverse background in acute care nursing, microbiology, epidemiology and infection control. She is passionate about leading and mentoring new and future infection preventionists in their career paths.

Amy loves to ride bikes and be outdoors!

Contact: Amy.Ward@Allianthealth.org

Format for IP Chats

- Sessions are not recorded and minutes are not taken
 - If you prefer to remain anonymous, please use the call-in option
- Review of updates surrounding COVID-19 regulations and guidelines
- Open forum discussion
 - Survey findings discussion (corrective action/standards referenced, etc.)
 - Current COVID-19 response challenges or barriers to IP practice
 - IP mentoring or support needed

Feedback on IP Chats

CMS is interested in knowing if these sessions are beneficial to you.

Please enter to chat:

1 = Very beneficial

2 = Somewhat beneficial

3 = Neutral

4 = Unbeneficial

5 = Very unbeneficial

CMS Memo QSO-22-04-ALL

- <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-22-04-all.pdf>
- Survey and Enforcement of the vaccine requirement for health care staff in Medicare and Medicaid certified providers and suppliers suspended while court ordered injunctions are in effect.
 - CMS will not enforce the new rule regarding vaccination of health care workers or requirements for policies and procedures in certified Medicare/Medicaid providers and suppliers (hospitals, nursing facilities, dialysis facilities, and all other provider types covered by the new rule while there are court ordered injunctions in place prohibiting the enforcement of this provision.

QSO-22-04-ALL

- CMS has appealed both of the decisions and has filed motions for stays of these orders.
- CMS remains confident in its authority to protect the health and safety of patients in facilities certified by the Medicare/Medicaid programs
- Healthcare facilities may voluntarily choose to comply with the interim final rule

AHA Blog: Updates on Legal Challenges to CMS Vaccine Mandate Rule

[Blog: Updates on Legal Challenges to CMS Vaccine Mandate Rule | AHA News](#)

To help hospitals and health system leaders stay up-to-date on all of the legal developments related to vaccine mandates, the AHA has developed a blog authored by Sean Marotta, a partner at Hogan Lovells and outside counsel for the AHA. Marotta will provide regular updates on this page as new developments occur.

Omicron Variant

- Named variant of concern by the World Health Organization on 11/26/2021.
- No cases identified in the United States as of 11/26/2021.
- CDC recommends people follow [prevention strategies](#) such as wearing a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high [community transmission](#), washing their hands frequently and physically distancing from others. The CDC also recommends that everyone 5 years and older protect themselves from COVID-19 by getting [fully vaccinated](#). In addition, the CDC encourages a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose for those who are eligible.
- Travelers to the United States should continue to follow the [CDC recommendations for traveling](#).
- The CDC will provide updates as more information becomes available.

CDC Booster Shot Recommendation

[CDC Expands COVID-19 Booster Recommendations | CDC Online Newsroom | CDC](#)

November 29, 2021

Today, CDC is strengthening its recommendation on booster doses for individuals who are 18 years and older. Everyone ages 18 and older should get a booster shot either when they are 6 months after their initial Pfizer or Moderna series or 2 months after their initial J&J vaccine.

- Testing when sick is encouraged because it will help to identify the Omicron variant.

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots

NEW Everyone ages 18 and older should get a booster shot

Everyone Ages 18 and Older Should Get a Booster Shot

IF YOU RECEIVED

Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

Who should get a booster:

Everyone 18 years or older

When to get a booster:

At least 6 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series.

Which booster should you get?

[Any of the COVID-19 vaccines](#) authorized in the United States.

IF YOU RECEIVED

Johnson & Johnson's Janssen

Who should get a booster:

Everyone 18 years or older

When to get a booster:

At least 2 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination.

Which booster should you get?

[Any of the COVID-19 vaccines](#) authorized in the United States.

CDC Health Alert Network – Official Health Advisory

[HAN Archive - 00458 | Health Alert Network \(HAN\) \(cdc.gov\)](#)

November 24, 2021

Summary


The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about increased influenza A(H3N2) activity that could mark the beginning of the 2021-2022 influenza season. The purpose of this HAN Health Advisory is to

1. Remind public health practitioners and clinicians to recommend and offer the current seasonal influenza vaccine to all eligible persons aged six months and older (Flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine can be given at the same visit).
2. Remind clinicians to consider testing for both influenza virus and SARS-CoV-2 in patients with influenza-like illness (ILI).
3. Advise clinicians that antiviral treatment is recommended as early as possible for any patient with confirmed or suspected influenza who is: a) hospitalized; b) at higher risk for influenza complications; or c) developing progressive illness. In patients with suspected influenza, decisions about starting antiviral treatment should not wait for laboratory confirmation of influenza, however COVID-19 should be excluded if a rapid assay is available.
4. Remind public health practitioners and clinicians to consider mitigation measures including antiviral post-exposure prophylaxis during influenza outbreaks in institutions (e.g., long-term care facilities, university dormitories) in the setting of co-circulation of SARS-CoV-2.
5. Remind the public to use non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI) or everyday preventive actions, in addition to getting a flu vaccine. Everyday preventive actions include staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often.

Resources

- Alliant Quality HQIC Website
 - [HQIC IP Chats | Dec. 1, 2021 - NQIIC \(allianthealth.org\)](#)
 - [HQIC IP Chats | Nov. 17, 2021 - NQIIC \(allianthealth.org\)](#)
 - [HQIC IP Chats | Nov. 10, 2021 - NQIIC \(allianthealth.org\)](#)
- [Infection Prevention \(HQIC\) Archives - NQIIC \(alliantquality.org\)](#)

HQIC Goals



Behavioral Health Outcomes & Opioid Misuse

- ✓ Promote opioid best practices
- ✓ Decrease high dose opioid prescribing and opioid adverse events in all settings
- ✓ Increase access to behavioral health services



Patient Safety

- ✓ Reduce risky medication combinations
- ✓ Reduce adverse drug events
- ✓ Reduce *C. diff* in all settings



Quality of Care Transitions

- ✓ Convene community coalitions
- ✓ Identify and promote optical care for super utilizers
- ✓ Reduce community-based adverse drug events

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Thank you for joining us!
How did we do today?

Alliant Health Solutions



Alliant Health Solutions



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