Seasonal influenza activity in the United States remains low.
0.2% of specimens from clinical laboratories tested positive for influenza this week.
1.5% of visits to a health care provider were for influenza-like illness (ILI). ILI remains below the national baseline of 2.6%.
8.9% of deaths were attributed to pneumonia, influenza, or COVID-19.
No pediatric deaths have been reported for the 2020-2021 season. A total of 195 children died during the 2019-2020 season.
**Study: Children with vaccine-hesitant parents less likely to receive flu vaccine; American Academy of Pediatrics**

Nearly 20% of U.S. children have a parent who is hesitant about childhood vaccines. These children are significantly less likely to receive a flu vaccine, according to a new study. The findings come as health officials warn about both flu and COVID-19 circulating and follow a flu season that set records for pediatric deaths and hospitalizations.

**InFLUencer Dr. Kevin Ault on Prenatal Flu Vaccination; Insights on Influenza**

FFF Medical Advisor, Dr. Kevin Ault, provides expert commentary about the benefits of flu vaccination during pregnancy. Read our latest Insights on Influenza blog post about why women should get vaccinated during pregnancy against flu and the history of prenatal flu vaccines.

**US surgeon general: Loss of taste, smell helps differentiate COVID-19 from flu; NY Post**

Amid the alarming spike in coronavirus cases nationwide, US Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams said the one symptom that can help people differentiate between COVID-19 and the flu is the loss of taste and smell, according to a report. Adams also reiterated that the coronavirus spreads “much more easily” than influenza as he urged people to “take measures to prevent both — wearing a mask, washing your hands and watching your distance,” as well as getting a flu shot.
Flu vaccine rate less than 25% in young adults with heart disease, despite increased risk; 
MedicalXpress.com

Despite clear evidence of the health benefits, the vast majority of young adults with cardiovascular disease are not getting the recommended annual influenza vaccine. Only about 20% of 18- to 34-year-olds who had a history of heart attack received an annual influenza vaccination, versus about one-fourth of those free from heart attack. The potentially serious complications of the flu are far, far greater for those with chronic diseases, thus annual flu vaccination is especially important in this population.

As flu season nears its peak, COVID-19 cases are surging: Get your flu shot now, experts say; 
USA Today

The crushing coronavirus pandemic is fueling record numbers of infections and hospitalizations even as the nation hurtles toward the peak of flu season. Now, there is an urgent call for flu vaccinations, and it's certainly not too late to get a flu vaccine. The exact timing and duration of flu seasons can vary, but flu cases often begin their rise as early as October. Activity peaks between December and February and can last as late as May. The benefits of flu vaccination usually kick in about two weeks after vaccination and last about six months.

Families Fighting Flu Updates

Webinar

Join FFF Medical Advisor, Dr. Flor Munoz, for an American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) webinar titled "Influenza Prevention and Control Strategies for Head Start and Child Care" tomorrow, November 17, from 5:00 - 6:30 PM EST. Register here.

Check out our new suite of Spanish social media graphics here! Immediately download any of our graphics for use on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.
Visit our website to view and download our new Spanish educational materials today!

Need a reminder to get your annual flu vaccine? Text FIGHTFLU to 47177 to sign up for key flu and flu vaccine information to stay healthy this season!

Make the Families Fighting Flu Vaccination Promise! Commit to getting your annual flu vaccine and sign your name on the Promise Wall.
Flu Champions

Are you interested in flu education and advocacy? Become a Flu Champion in your community to inform others about the seriousness of flu and the importance of flu prevention and treatment.

Symptom Survey

Have you or someone you care for had the flu? Please take the following survey to tell us:

- which symptoms you consider most important
- what a meaningful improvement looks like
- what recovery means to you and your family

You can access it here by using the password SymptomSurvey2020

Our Contact Information

*{{Organization Name}}*
*{{Organization Address}}*
*{{Organization Phone}}*
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