



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Van T. Mitchell, Secretary

Developmental Disabilities Administration

Bernard Simons, Deputy Secretary of Developmental Disabilities

MEMORANDUM

TO: DD Community Nurses

FROM: Marie Adams, RNC, BSN
Karen Borland, RN, BSN
Debra Goldberg, RN, MSN

DATE: August 20, 2015

RE: Influenza Vaccine Distribution and Administration

The benefits of the Pneumovax and Influenza Vaccine are well established. Please begin planning now for how the individuals you serve will be offered these vaccines. DDA agencies and their nurses should work together in implementing a system that will track the immunization status of both individuals and direct support staff that are eligible to receive the Pneumovax and the Influenza Vaccine. An individual's vaccination status is expected to be included on the IR/AIR for all incidents involving respiratory infections/pneumonias.

The Pneumovax and Influenza vaccine may be obtained through the primary care physician, the local health department and some community stores and centers. There may be a fee for the vaccines depending on where the vaccine is obtained.

You are encouraged to educate the direct support staff and the individuals they serve on the importance of receiving appropriate immunizations. Additionally, consider reviewing the importance of frequent and proper hand washing in preventing the flu and subsequent pneumonia.

For updates and information, visit the CDC Influenza vaccine website www.cdc.gov/flu . Flu information and clinics in Maryland can be found in the DHMH website, <http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/influenza/SitePages/Home.aspx> . If you need further assistance, please feel free to contact your Regional Nurse.

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