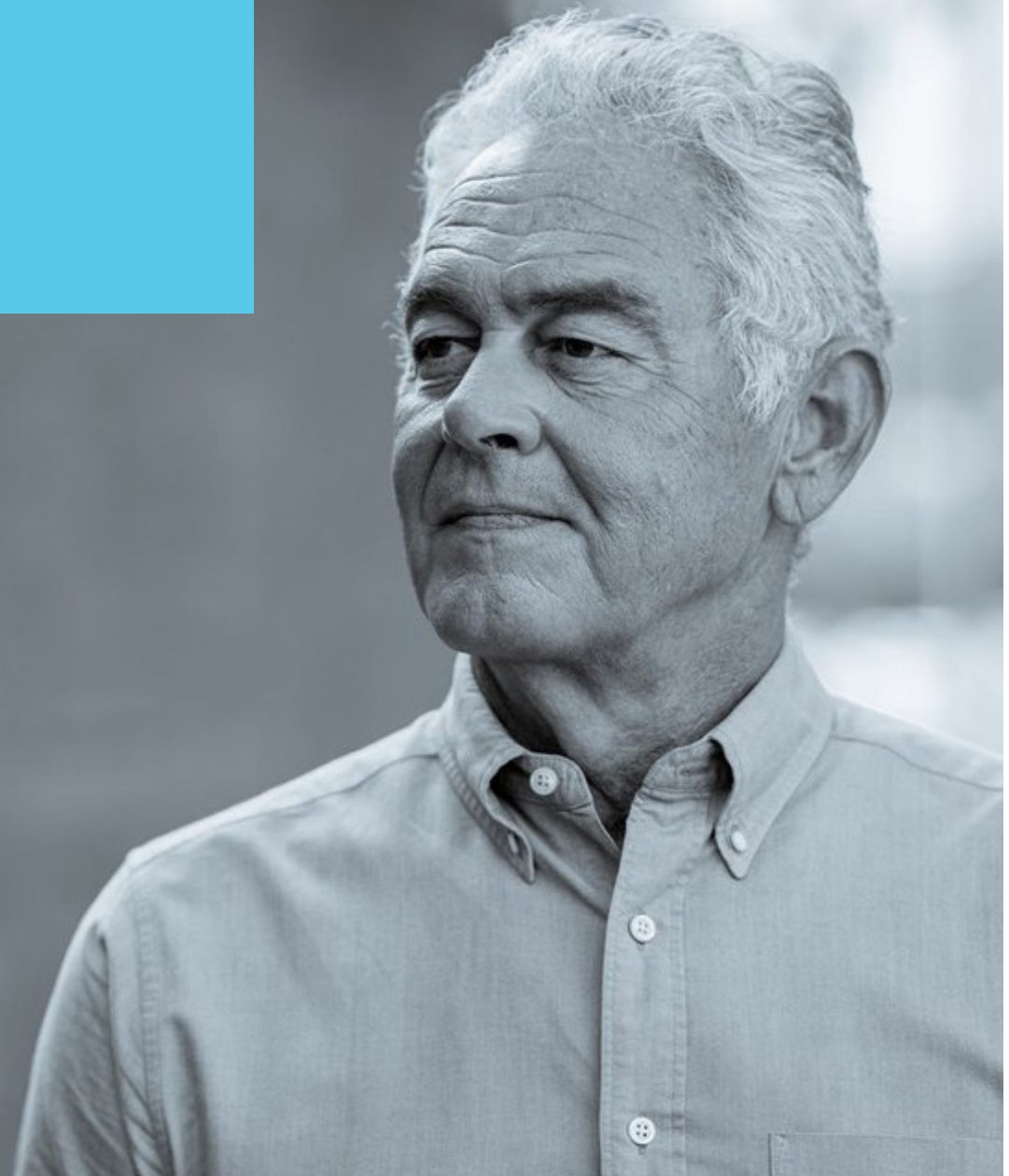


Business Influenza Toolkit

September 10, 2020



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH SERVICES



Benefits of Influenza Vaccination

The flu can lead to serious illness, hospitalization, and death.

During the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical to also prevent the flu so fewer people are hospitalized due to flu, leaving more hospital beds open for COVID-19 patients.

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) predicts that adults with the flu will miss four work days due to illness, costing money for both employers and employees in lost work time and productivity.
- Sick workers are less productive, may miss work to recover, and often infect their colleagues.
- It's estimated that U.S. employees miss up to 111 million workdays annually because of the flu. The result? An estimated \$16.3 billion in lost earnings each year.

Flu vaccination prevents absenteeism from work

- People who received an influenza vaccine had a 43% decrease in absenteeism from work due to upper respiratory illnesses and a 36% overall decrease in absenteeism. The cost savings for employers were estimated to be \$46.85 per person vaccinated.

Flu vaccination prevents people from getting sick with flu

- Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related doctors' visits each year. For example, during the 2018-2019 influenza season, flu vaccination prevented an estimated 4.4 million influenza illnesses, 58,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations and 3,500 influenza-associated deaths.
- During seasons when the flu vaccine viruses are similar to circulating flu viruses, flu vaccine has been shown to reduce the risk of having to go to the doctor with flu by 40 percent to 60 percent.

Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalization

- Flu vaccine prevents tens of thousands of hospitalizations each year.
- Flu vaccination in adults has been shown to reduce the risk of being admitted to the hospital by 37 percent and to decrease the risk of being admitted to an intensive care unit (ICU) with flu by 82 percent.

Flu vaccination has been shown to reduce severity of illness in those who still get the flu

- A 2017 study showed that flu vaccination reduced deaths, intensive care unit (ICU) admissions, ICU length of stay, and overall duration of hospitalization among hospitalized flu patients.
- A 2018 study showed that among adults hospitalized with flu, vaccinated patients were 59 percent less likely to be admitted to the ICU than those who had not been vaccinated. Among adults in the ICU with flu, vaccinated patients on average spent 4 fewer days in the hospital than those who were not vaccinated.

Flu vaccination is important for employees with chronic health conditions

- Flu vaccination has been associated with lower rates of heart attacks and stroke among people with heart disease.
- Flu vaccination also has been shown in separate studies to be associated with reduced hospitalizations among people with diabetes and chronic lung disease.

Flu vaccination helps protect women during and after pregnancy

- Vaccination reduces the risk of flu-associated acute respiratory infection in pregnant women by about one-half.
- A 2018 study showed that getting a flu shot reduced a pregnant woman's risk of being hospitalized with flu by an average of 40 percent.
- A number of studies have shown that in addition to helping to protect pregnant women, a flu vaccine given during pregnancy helps protect the baby from flu for several months after birth, when he or she is not old enough to be vaccinated.

Getting vaccinated can protect people around you, including those who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness, like babies, young children, older people, and people with certain chronic health conditions.

- Flu vaccination can significantly reduce a child's risk of dying from flu.

Workplace Vaccination Opportunities

Offer free on-site flu vaccinations at your business locations.

Benefits to Employers:

- Reduces cost by decreasing time missed from work to get vaccinated
- Reduces cost by reducing absences due to illness, resulting in improved productivity
- Vaccination often already covered under employee health plans
- Improves morale

Benefits to Employees:

- Reduces absences due to sickness and doctor visits
- Improves health
- Convenience
- Improves morale

Employer Checklist for Onsite Flu Vaccination Clinic

If your business cannot offer flu vaccine clinics onsite, encourage employees to seek flu vaccination in the community. You may want to consider incentives to have them do so.

- [Promoting Seasonal Flu Vaccination: A Checklist for Businesses and Employers](#)

Locations for influenza vaccination:

- Pharmacies
- Physician offices and other medical clinics
- County health departments
- [Vaccine Finder](#) online search

Workplace Vaccination Best Practices & Checklists

When a vaccination clinic is held at a worksite, this checklist is a step-by-step guide to help clinic coordinators/supervisors overseeing vaccination clinics held at satellite, temporary, or off-site locations follow CDC guidelines and best practices for vaccine shipment, transport, storage, handling, preparation, administration, and documentation. This checklist outlines CDC guidelines and best practices that are essential for patient safety and vaccine effectiveness.

- [Checklist of Best Practices for Vaccination Clinics Held at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-site Locations](#)

Ten Principles for Holding a Safe Vaccination Clinic

This resource, which supplements the checklist, serves as a quick reference guide highlighting the main points of the checklist that can be used by all staff (not just the clinic coordinators/supervisors who are completing the checklist). This document can be posted on the wall of the clinic or given out to all the staff who are vaccinating at the clinic.

- [Ten Principles for Holding Safe Vaccination Clinics at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-site Locations](#)

Frequently Asked Questions about the Best Practices for Vaccination Clinics

This resource answers some of the most common questions about the purpose of the checklist and pledge, the intended users of the checklist, how to use the checklist, and technical questions.

- [Frequently Asked Questions about the Checklist of Best Practices for Vaccination Clinics Held at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-site Locations and Pledge for Implementing the Checklist](#)

For additional guidance on influenza, visit [CDC Flu Resources for Businesses](#) page.

- [Flu Education Materials](#)
- [CDC Flu Season Campaign Materials](#)
- [Prevention Messages](#)



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