

## Do Your Part to Prevent the Spread of Influenza

Recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) specifically call for annual vaccination of health-care workers involved in direct patient care.<sup>1</sup>

- Every year influenza causes approximately 226,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths in the United States<sup>1,2</sup>
- Influenza (combined with pneumonia) is the seventh-leading cause of death in the United States across all age groups<sup>3</sup>
- Minimizing influenza transmission from health-care workers to persons at high risk for infection can help reduce mortality among nursing-home patients, decrease use of health-care resources, and reduce work absenteeism<sup>1</sup>

**Get vaccinated to protect yourself and your patients.**

**References:** 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Prevention and control of influenza: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2007. *MMWR*. 2007;56(RR-6):1-60. 2. CDC. *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*. Atkinson W, Hamborsky J, McIntyre L, Wolfe S, eds. 10th ed. Washington, DC: Public Health Foundation, 2007:235-256. 3. Hoyert DL, Kung H-C, Smith BL. Deaths: preliminary data for 2003. *Natl Vital Stat Rep*. 2005;53(15):1-48.

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