Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination in Mississippi, 2014

The influenza virus can be spread person to person through microscopic droplets in the air from coughs and sneezes of infected persons. Healthcare personnel (HCP) that contract the flu, whether from a patient, coworker, or away from work, can then spread the virus to their patients. Vaccination against influenza is the best way to prevent transmission of the virus. Other control mechanisms include proper hand hygiene and covering the mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing. Flu season is defined by the CDC as lasting from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. Facilities report the number of personnel that were vaccinated or declined vaccination from October to March of the following year, the peak of the season. Reporting of vaccination rates was not required by CMS until January 2013. Any reporting prior to this time would have been voluntary on the facility. Influenza vaccination information is submitted for four types of healthcare personnel; employees working, licensed independent practitioners (LIPs), students/trainees and volunteers, and other contract personnel. MSDH does not track information on the other contract personnel group since reporting for this type of personnel is optional and not all facilities report this group. For the 2014-2015 Flu Season, CMS required personnel influenza vaccination data from acute care facilities (starting January 2013), long-term acute care facilities (starting October 2014), inpatient rehabilitation facilities (starting October 2014), and ambulatory surgery centers (starting October 2014).

Acute Care Facilities (ACF):
- Number of Facilities that Reported HCP Flu Vaccination: 59
- Number of All HCP: 73,312
- Percentage of Employees Working Vaccinated: 85%
- Percentage of LIPs Vaccinated: 62%
- Percentage of Students/Trainees and Volunteers Vaccinated: 81%
Influenza Vaccination Rates of All ACF Healthcare Personnel, Mississippi, 2014-2015 Flu Season

**Long-Term Acute Care (LTAC) Facilities:**
- Number of Facilities that Reported HCP Flu Vaccination: 7
- Number of All HCP: 1,610
- Percentage of Employees Working Vaccinated: 74%
- Percentage of LIPs Vaccinated: 54%
- Percentage of Students/Trainees and Volunteers Vaccinated: 57%

Influenza Vaccination Rates for All LTAC Healthcare Personnel, Mississippi, 2014-2015 Flu Season

**Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF):**
In Mississippi, there is only one independent IRF and 10 IRF units in acute care facilities (ACF). All 11 of these are required to report HAIs CMS. Mississippi did not collect data on these facilities in 2014.
Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASC):
As of December 2015, MSDH had not requested viewing rights to ASCs in Mississippi; therefore, no data can be collected on ASCs for 2014.

For more information on facility reporting of HCP Flu Vaccination: http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/acute-care-hospital/hcp-vaccination/index.html