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Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

October 4, 2010

Dear Colleague,

During the upcoming influenza season, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is collaborating with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on strategies to improve reporting of influenza vaccination among health care workers. A recruitment letter from CDC is also enclosed. *All general acute care hospitals* in California are currently required to report healthcare personnel influenza data to CDPH. Participation in this project would not replace that requirement for an acute care hospital, but would provide additional information, including from a variety of healthcare facility types, that could lead to the development of a method for electronic reporting of this data. If healthcare personnel influenza vaccination is to become a national quality measure, as described in the CDC letter, electronic reporting of data that can be collected by healthcare facilities is essential. Your participation will contribute to this important evaluation.

CDPH is requesting that health care employers in California participate in a CDC- sponsored pilot reporting project during the 2010-2011 influenza season. The following facility types are part of this project:

- Acute care hospitals
- Dialysis centers
- Long term care facilities
- Ambulatory surgery centers
- Physician practices

These facilities will complete a simple “baseline” reporting form in November 2010 that includes the at-risk population of employees (“denominator”) along with some basic information about your facility type. In January and March of 2011, a follow-up form will be completed that includes any revisions in the at-risk population and the number who receive the influenza vaccine (“numerator”). A short series of survey questions will also be completed to evaluate the barriers to reporting. A web-based tool has been designed so that completion of the information at each interval should take less than 15 minutes.

The participation is voluntary. All the information collected will be confidential, and no data on individuals will be requested. No facility will be identified in any publication.

If your facility is interested in participating in this project, please fill out the form online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P796XLV>. Additional information is available <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/hai/>.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By Robert Harrison

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