SUBJ/POLICY FOR INFLUENZA VACCINE USE FOR THE 2016-2017 INFLUENZA SEASON;

POC/ LCDR JAIME VEGA/PUBLIC HEALTH, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE
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RMKS/1. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS, HEALTH SERVICES AND U.S. FLEET FORCES COMMAND, SURGEON'S OFFICE. TRANSMISSION TO MARINE CORPS AND FLEET ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED.

2. GOALS. PER REF A, THE NAVYS SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION GOAL IS TO MEET 90 PERCENT IMMUNIZATION OF ALL ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL BY 15 DECEMBER 2016, AND 100 PERCENT VACCINE ACCESS FOR NAVY FAMILY (INCLUDES FAMILY MEMBERS, RETIREES, AND OTHER BENEFICIARIES). THE VACCINE SHOULD BE USED IMMEDIATELY THROUGH AGGRESSIVE IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGNS AND SHOT EXERCISES.

3. CHIEF BUMED'S INTENT:
   A. ROUTINE ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION IS RECOMMENDED FOR ALL PERSONS AGED 6 MONTHS AND OLDER AND MANDATORY FOR ALL ACTIVE AND RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL.
   B. MTFS IN RECEIPT OF THE 2016-2017 SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE SHALL PROVIDE ACCESS TO ANY TRICARE BENEFICIARY PRESENTING FOR IMMUNIZATION REGARDLESS OF LOCAL ENROLLMENT OR HEALTH-STATUS PRIORITIZATION. ALL RESERVISTS WHO PRESENT VALID MILITARY IDENTIFICATION SHOULD ALSO RECEIVE THE INFLUENZA VACCINE.
4. INFLUENZA VACCINE PRIORITIES. INFLUENZA VACCINATION PRIORITIES ARE INTENDED TO SUPPORT MISSION READINESS AND PROTECT VULNERABLE POPULATIONS. USE THE FIRST AVAILABLE VACCINE TO IMMUNIZE THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

A. MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ORDERED TO DEPLOY IN SUPPORT OF AN OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT OR ASSIGNED TO ANY SHIP.
B. MEDICALLY HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS INVOLVED IN DIRECT PATIENT CARE, AND NAVY CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WITH INFLUENZA VACCINATION WRITTEN IN THEIR POSITION DESCRIPTION AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT.
(1) PER REF B, DOD MTFS MUST DOCUMENT AND RECORD THE VACCINATION OR EXEMPTION OF EACH CIVILIAN HEALTHCARE WORKER IN DIRECT PATIENT CARE, AS DEFINED BY REF C.
(2) NAVY MTFS SHALL REPORT COMPLIANCE WITH REF B & E, VIA THEIR NAVY MEDICINE REGION, NO LATER THAN 13 JANUARY 2017. THE DHA INTERIM PROCEDURES MEMORANDUM 16-002, 2016-2017 SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION PROGRAM CAN BE VIEWED AT HTTP://WWW.VACCINES.MIL/DOWNLOADS/4906_DHA-IPM_16-002_FLUMEMO.PDF.

C. BASIC AND ADVANCED TRAINEES, OFFICER TRAINEES, MIDSHIPMEN, AND THE TRAINING CADRE OF THESE PERSONNEL.

D. ALL OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL.

E. ALL OTHER CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS DOD CIVILIAN AND CONTRACT EMPLOYEES.

F. ALL OTHER ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES AND DOD CIVILIANS. UNLESS SIGNIFICANT SHORTAGES EXIST, ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES AND CIVILIANS WILL NOT BE DENIED THE INFLUENZA VACCINE UPON REQUEST.


6. VACCINES WILL BE ADMINISTERED PER THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES.

A. PER REF D, COMMANDS SHALL ADMINISTER AND FOLLOW ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CDC ACIP AND THE PRESCRIBING INFORMATION IN THE MANUFACTURERS' PACKAGE INSERTS.

B. PERSONNEL IN AN ACTIVE FLYING STATUS WILL OBSERVE THE GROUNDING PERIOD GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN SECTION 18.5, NAVY AEROMEDICAL REFERENCE AND WAIVER GUIDE.

7. COLD CHAIN MANAGEMENT. TEMPERATURE MONITORS WILL BE IN ALL INFLUENZA VACCINE SHIPMENTS. EACH SHIPMENT WILL CONTAIN A HANDLING SHEET WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURNING TEMPERATURE MONITORS. IF THE SHIPMENT IS IN AN ALARMED STATUS, THE VACCINE CANNOT BE USED UNTIL THE TEMPERATURE MONITOR IS RECEIVED AND DISPOSITION IS PROVIDED BY DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY TROOP SUPPORT BRANCH (DLA-TSB). PROMPT RETURN OF ALL TEMPERATURE MONITORS IS CRITICAL. DISPOSITION FOR ALARMED TEMPERATURE MONITORS WILL BE PROVIDED BY DLA-TSB WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THEIR RECEIPT OF THE MONITOR.

A. WHEN THE VACCINE HAS BEEN POTENTIALLY COMPROMISED POST-RECEIPT (E.G., REFRIGERATOR MALFUNCTION), CONTACT NAVAL MEDICAL LOGISTICS COMMAND (NMLC) AND YOUR DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY, IMMUNIZATION HEALTHCARE BRANCH SPECIALIST. COMPLETE THE POTENTIALLY COMPROMISED VACCINE EVENTS WORKSHEET LOCATED AT HTTP://WWW.VACCINES.MIL/DOWNLOADS/1808_PC-TSMP.PDF. RETURN THE VACCINE IMMEDIATELY TO PROPER REFRIGERATION AND DLA-TSB WILL PROVIDE DISPOSITION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIVING THE WORKSHEET VIA THE DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY, IMMUNIZATION HEALTHCARE BRANCH.
B. UNITS ARE ADVISED TO KEEP AN APPROPRIATE QUANTITY OF INSULATED SHIPPING BOXES AND GEL PACKS ON HAND FOR LOCAL SHIPPING NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE SEASON. ALL PERSONNEL PERFORMING TRANS-SHIPMENT OF THE VACCINE NEED TO BE TRAINED BY DLA AND MUST CONTACT DLA-TSB PRIOR TO TRANS-SHIPMENT.

C. INFLUENZA VACCINE ORDERS FOR NAVY AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE COMMANDS WILL BE SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO THE RESERVE COMMANDS AND NOT TO THEIR ALIGNED MTF. RESERVE COMMANDS MUST ADHERE TO COLD CHAIN REQUIREMENTS.

8. VACCINE DISTRIBUTION. THE SINGLE SOURCE OF INFLUENZA VACCINE IS THE ESTABLISHED DOD CENTRALIZED DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, COORDINATED AND CONTROLLED BY NMLC. VIALS IS THE REQUISITION SYSTEM TOOL FOR SEASONAL AND EMERGING INFLUENZA VACCINES. VIALS SIMPLIFIES VACCINE REQUISITIONS AND ENABLES COMMANDS TO TRACK VACCINE ORDERS ELECTRONICALLY FROM REQUISITION TO RECEIPT. COORDINATE ORDERS FOR ADDITIONAL VACCINE THROUGH VIALS. ALL SUBSEQUENT REQUISITIONS SUBMITTED WILL BE REVIEWED BY NMLC AND DLA-TSB. SUBSTITUTIONS MAY BE MADE TO ENSURE EQUIVATE DISTRIBUTION OF INFLUENZA VACCINE WHEN AND WHERE NEEDED. CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN ACTIVITY SUPPLY AND LOGISTICS OFFICERS WITH NMLC AND DLA-TSB IS REQUIRED.

9. INJECTABLE CONSIDERATIONS. SINCE ONLY INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINE IS AVAILABLE THIS SEASON, ADMINISTERING FACILITIES SHOULD ACCOUNT FOR AND ORDER ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS SUCH AS SYRINGES AND SYRINGE NEEDLES. INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINES SHIP FROM THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY DEPOT TO ORDERING FACILITIES, SO PLEASE CONSIDER POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL SHIPPING TIME ASSOCIATED WITH INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINATION PRODUCTS.

10. IMMUNIZATION DOCUMENTATION:
A. SENIOR LEADERSHIP MAINTAINS A HIGH INTEREST IN THE PROGRESS OF THE INFLUENZA VACCINE CAMPAIGN. MEDICAL READINESS REPORTING SYSTEM (MRRS) WILL BE USED TO ENTER VACCINATION STATUS AND MONITOR COMPLIANCE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL.

B. PER REF D, DOCUMENTATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE DATE THE VACCINE WAS ADMINISTERED, VACCINE NAME OR CODE, MANUFACTURER, LOT NUMBER, DOSE, VACCINE ADMINISTRATION ROUTE, AND ANATOMIC SITE.

C. THE CODES (CVX) TO DOCUMENT VACCINE ADMINISTRATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE VIALS WEBSITE AT: HTTPS://GOV_ONLY.NMLC.MED.NAVY.MIL/INT_CODE03/VIALS/DOSCS/INFLUENZA%20VACCINES%20FOR %20DIFFERENT%20AGE%20GROUPS%202015-16_23%20JUL%2015.PDF. CVX CODES 15, 16, AND 111 SHOULD NOT BE USED TO DOCUMENT VACCINE ADMINISTRATION IN THE 2016-2017 INFLUENZA SEASON.

11. ADDITIONAL FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) APPROVED INFLUENZA VACCINES (E.G., HIGH DOSE, INTRADERMAL, AND INTRANASAL) ARE NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DOD CENTRAL PURCHASING CONTRACTS OR PRIME OVENDOR PROGRAM. THESE VACCINES MAY BE PURCHASED VIA DIRECT VENDOR BUYS. HOWEVER, THESE VACCINE VARIANTS WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD FULFILLING MEDICAL READINESS REQUIREMENTS AND COMMANDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS INVOLVED IF THESE VACCINES ARE CHOSEN.


13. TRICARE VACCINE PROGRAM. BENEFICIARIES MAY RECEIVE INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINES FOR ZERO COPAYMENT AT PARTICIPATING RETAIL NETWORK PHARMACIES. SERVICE MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE INJECTABLE INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS FROM RETAIL NETWORK PHARMACIES WILL PROVIDE
DOCUMENTATION OF IMMUNIZATION NO LATER THAN THE NEXT DUTY OR DRILL DAY FOLLOWING VACCINATION. THIS INFLUENZA SEASON, INTRanasal VACCINES WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD FULFILLING SERVICE MEMBERS INDIVIDUAL MEDICAL READINESS REQUIREMENTS, AND IT WILL NOT SATISFY THE REQUIREMENT FOR THOSE WHOSE IMMUNIZATION IS MANDATORY.

14. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS SURVEILLANCE OF ACTIVE DUTY AND CIVILIAN POPULATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED PER REF E.

15. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
A. NMLC INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, CHIEF MELANIE DREW, COMM: 301-619-8268, DSN: 343-8268. E-MAIL: USN.DETRICK.NAVMEDLOGCOMFTMD.DMD.LIST.VIALHELP@MAIL.MIL
B. DLA-TSB, COLD CHAIN AND VACCINE PROGRAM MANAGER, MS. DANA DALLAS COMM: 215-737-5537; DSN: 444-5537, E-MAIL: DANA.DALLAS@DLA.MIL.

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