

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Update, February 2016

Nation Influenza Vaccination Week

During the week of Dec. 6, 2015, CDC recognized their 10th annual National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW). NIVW provides an opportunity for public health and health care professionals, health advocates, communities and families across the country to work together to promote the importance of continuing influenza vaccination before and during the holiday season and beyond. To recognize NIVW 2015, CDC conducted a variety of activities to remind everyone 6 months and older that it's not too late to get a flu vaccine. Activities included a targeted display media buy and radio media tour (RMT). CDC also worked with its network of partners to execute a Thunderclap campaign, Twitter Chat, and blog relay.

STRIVE - Ebola Vaccine Study

STRIVE - the Sierra Leone Trial to Introduce a Vaccine against Ebola has enrolled and vaccinated > 8,000 health care and other frontline workers in 5 districts in Sierra Leone. The design is open label with individual randomization of study participants to immediate or delayed (about 6 months later) vaccination. With completion of vaccination, ongoing work involves adverse event monitoring of participants for 6 months following vaccination, continuing blood draws for 6 and 12 months post vaccination for the immunogenicity sub-study and follow up of pregnancies. The study is being conducted by College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone, the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation, and CDC. CDC is sponsoring the trial, with key implementation support from BARDA. Details are available at: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02378753>. In addition to accelerating development of Ebola vaccines for this and future outbreaks, the study aims to strengthen capacity in Sierra Leone for future research and public health activities.

Polio Update

Containment: CDC staff continues to be engaged with the global polio eradication efforts and are working to assist in a polio laboratory containment strategy both domestically and overseas. Dr. Karen DeSalvo, the Assistant Secretary for Health (Acting), appointed DVD's Dr. Olen Kew as the National Poliovirus Containment Coordinator for the U.S.-Beginning October 2015, the U.S. government joined other national governments to begin implementation of World Health Organization's (WHO) [Global Action Plan, third edition \(GAPIII\)](#) [2.58 MB, 289 pages] to contain wild poliovirus type 2 in laboratories.

As part of Phase I of GAPIII, the National Poliovirus Containment Program is surveying laboratories across the country to identify and get information on poliovirus infectious materials and potentially infectious materials currently in use and/or stored, as well as the facilities' plans for achieving containment. A survey to identify infectious or potentially infectious poliovirus materials is scheduled for completion by all CDC labs by December 31; the distribution of the survey to laboratories across the U.S. is forthcoming. More information on polio containment and the domestic containment efforts can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/polio/us/lab-testing/poliovirus-containment.html>.

National Certification Commission: NCIRD is helping stand up the National Certification Commission (NCC) that is being convened by the Task Force for Global Health as part of the polio eradication endgame strategy. NCC's role is to review the report of Phase I survey and inventory activities, wild poliovirus type 2 containment, and Phase II containment of Sabin type 2, which will be provided by the Assistant Secretary of Health/DHHS. If

satisfactory, the NCC will endorse the report and submit the certification to the Regional Certification Commission.

Influenza Update

During week 2 (January 10-16, 2016), influenza activity increased slightly in the United States. The most frequently identified influenza virus type reported by public health laboratories during week 2 was influenza A, with influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 viruses predominating. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for influenza in clinical laboratories increased. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the system-specific epidemic and no influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.

Legionnaires' Disease Update

NCIRD's Division of Bacterial Diseases has been reviewing their program strategy for addressing Legionnaires' disease, which has been increasing in incidence over the last decade. On December 9, 2015, the new strategy was presented to the Office of Infectious Disease's Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC). In a robust discussion, the BSC members showed their support for an increasing emphasis on primary prevention measures and increasing collaboration with the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) on control of the organism in water sources that are most often implicated in disease transmission.

Immunization Champion Award

The *CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award* is an annual award that is given jointly by the CDC Foundation and CDC to recognize individuals who make a significant contribution toward improving public health through their work in childhood immunization. Each year, up to one *CDC Immunization Champion* from each of the 50 states, 8 U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States, and the District of Columbia is honored. For more information about the CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award, visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/champions.

National Immunization Conference

The 2016 NIC will be held September 14-16th in Atlanta, Georgia.