

# What is FluSafe?



FluSafe is a program available to health care facilities for attaining high influenza vaccination rates among employees. It is sponsored by the Genesee County Health Department.

### What is the goal of FluSafe?

FluSafe will help Genesee County achieve a health care worker influenza vaccination coverage goal of 100 percent of those who do not have medical contraindications. FluSafe facilitates friendly competition between health care facilities and supports thorough and accurate tracking of influenza vaccination coverage.

### Who is eligible to participate?

The program is initially open only to physicians' offices in Genesee County.

### Why is vaccinating health care workers important?

Unvaccinated health care workers can pass highly contagious influenza to their patients, many of whom are at high risk for complications of influenza.

Healthy People 2020 has a goal of 90 percent flu vaccination coverage for health care personnel. The CDC also has a recommendation for vaccinating 100 percent of health care workers who do not have a medical contraindication.

National rates of influenza vaccination of health care workers are about 63.5%.

### FluSafe is visible.

FluSafe offers an opportunity for your facility to be recognized for achieving employee influenza vaccination rates of 70, 80, or 90 percent. Low rates of vaccinated health care

workers can be very concerning for patients and the public. By participating in FluSafe, you can assure your patients and their families that you are actively fighting influenza infection. You will be acknowledged in a news release and will receive a certificate that can be posted in your facility to demonstrate your commitment to patient safety.

### FluSafe emphasizes patient safety.

Vaccination of employee protects patients. By participating in FluSafe, you are publically demonstrating your commitment to patient safety.

### FluSafe is practical.

FluSafe can be used to enhance your existing vaccination campaign or help you begin a new one. Using evidence-based tools and materials, you can be assured your facility is practicing with the most current information. Template forms are available for you to tailor to your facility's needs.

### FluSafe supports e-Health standards.

FluSafe will use the statewide immunization registry, the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS), to measure flu vaccination rates. Using the immunization registry is integral to the New York e-Health initiative.

### For more information or questions

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