

# Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY\*

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Marcus J. Molinaro  
County Executive



Henry M. Kurban, MD, MBA, MPH, FACPM  
Commissioner

### **INFLUENZA SEASON RECOMMENDATIONS**

*Thursday, February 4, 2016 - 4pm*

With an increase in the number of influenza cases reported statewide, the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health reminds residents and clinicians the importance of getting vaccinated against the flu when the virus is actively circulating. The Department is advises Clinicians to:

- Recommend Influenza vaccination to patients 6 months of age and older who can be vaccinated, especially those who are pregnant or at higher risk for complications. Vaccination should be encouraged during the remainder of this season for as long as influenza viruses are circulating;
- For individuals who cannot be vaccinated, especially infants less than 6 months of age, please encourage individuals to advocate for influenza vaccination for anyone who may come into contact with the unvaccinated individual, including siblings, caregivers, and family members.
- **Promptly** start antiviral treatment of severely ill and high-risk patients if influenza is suspected or confirmed, not waiting for laboratory confirmation nor prior influenza vaccination history.
- For providers without a supply of influenza vaccine, vaccine is readily available throughout the region, visit [dutchessny.gov/Flu](http://dutchessny.gov/Flu) for additional information and locations.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

NYSDOH's [Regulation for Prevention of Influenza Transmission by Healthcare and Residential Facility and Agency Personnel](#)\*  
NYS News Release - 01/27/2016 "[New Yorkers Reminded It's not too late to Vaccinate for Influenza](#)"\*\*

\* <http://w3.health.state.ny.us/dbspace/NYCRR10.nsf/56cf2e25d626f9f785256538006c3ed7/223578abe586d26f85257bb7004fb0e2?OpenDocument>

\*\*[https://health.ny.gov/press/releases/2016/2016-01-27\\_vaccinate\\_for\\_influenza.htm](https://health.ny.gov/press/releases/2016/2016-01-27_vaccinate_for_influenza.htm)

\***Health Alert**- conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention; **Health Advisory**- provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action; **Health Update**- provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health**

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