

# Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY\*

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### **Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine Not Recommended for 2016-2017 Flu Season**

(<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0622-laiv-flu.html>)

**September 14, 2016 - 10 am**

Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted that live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), also known as the "nasal spray" flu vaccine, should **not** be used during the 2016-2017 flu season. ACIP continues to recommend annual flu vaccination, with either the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV), for everyone 6 months and older.

CDC Conducts vaccine effectiveness studies each season to estimate flu vaccine effectiveness. In May 2016, preliminary data on the effectiveness of LAIV concluded the LAIV demonstrated no effectiveness compared to inactivated influenza vaccine (Flu shots). The reason for the recent poor performance of LAIV is not known.

While effectiveness can vary year to year, the flu shot's overall effectiveness suggests millions were protected against the flu last season.

#### **Providers should:**

- Review their upcoming influenza vaccine supply order to see how much of their current order is LAIV, and take steps to secure additional IIV or RIV for their patients 6 months and older.
- Provide patient education about why there is a change in vaccine recommendations this year. ACIP data suggests that nearly one-third of flu vaccinations given to children were in the form of LAIV.
- Continue to recommend flu vaccination to their patients along with other protective health behaviors (frequent hand washing, covering their cough, or staying home when they are sick) to help reduce overall spread of the flu virus within our community.

For additional information, visit Dutchess County's Immunization portal at [Dutchessny.gov/Immunizations](http://Dutchessny.gov/Immunizations) or call Dutchess County Immunization Program at (845) 486-3409.

\***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.

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