

## Flu Prevention: Educate Patients on Importance of Vaccine

Last year's flu season was the worst in 100 years according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, resulting in approximately 80,000 deaths nationwide.

We are reaching out to our members this fall with information about the seriousness of the flu virus and ways to protect themselves. Flu shots are a covered benefit for most Florida Blue health plans, but patients should always check to make sure they know what their coverage is based on their health plan.

### **What We're Communicating to Our Members**

We're encouraging our members to get their flu shot from their doctor, and letting them know we're offering flu shots at our Florida Blue Centers. If you're not able to schedule your patients to come to your office to receive a flu shot, please direct them to one of our centers or their local retail pharmacy.

### **Where Flu Shots are Available**

We offer flu shots for no additional cost at our [Florida Blue Centers](#) in partnership with Walgreens and at in-network pharmacies and providers. Walgreens flu vaccine vouchers will be available for uninsured individuals, at no cost, during the Florida Blue Center immunization clinics. The vouchers will accommodate recipients on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to availability.

### **Working Together to Spread the Word**

Join us in educating our members – your patients – to get a flu shot to protect themselves and those they love. As you know, the more people who get the flu shot, the better our communities will be protected and the fewer hospitalizations and deaths there may be.

Your patients listen to you. We encourage you to discuss any misconceptions your patients may have regarding the flu and getting the flu shot early so they benefit from the annual vaccine when the flu season is here.