

## **SAMPLE EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE #1:**

# **New Staff Influenza Immunization Initiative: Protect Your Patients. Protect Yourself**

### **Influenza Is Serious and Preventable**

Every year, over 200,000 Americans are hospitalized and more than 36,000 die from influenza and influenza-related complications. In fact, influenza—a vaccine-preventable disease—is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States.

### **Health Care Workers Have a Special Obligation**

As health care workers, we have a responsibility to protect our patients by making sure we are immunized against influenza each year. Many of us come in contact with patients who are at high risk for influenza-related complications, including certain children, adults over the age of 65, and patients with chronic illness. Health care workers can be a key cause of influenza outbreaks in health care settings.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends annual influenza immunization for all health care workers. Unfortunately, less than 50% of health care workers choose to be immunized against influenza each year, putting our patients at risk.

### **Free Influenza Vaccinations Will Be Available Here Soon**

**List locations**

**Dates and times**

### **Influenza Immunization Has a Decades-Long Record of Safety**

Influenza immunization is safe and effective and has been available for many decades. To learn more about influenza and the safety of vaccination, visit [\[INSERT CONTACT NAME\]](#) in the [\[INSERT DEPARTMENT NAME, I.E., OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OR INFECTION CONTROL\]](#).

**Protect your patients and protect yourself against influenza this year. Get immunized!**

## SAMPLE EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE #2:

### Influenza Season Is Coming . . . Are You Prepared?

With influenza season just around the corner, now is the time to start thinking about getting immunized. Each year many Americans are affected by the virus, over 200,000 are hospitalized, and more than 36,000 die from influenza and related complications.

This year **[INSERT NAME OF FACILITY]** has launched a new health care worker influenza immunization program for our employees —“*Protect your patients. Protect yourself.*”— with the goal of vaccinating 100% of staff.

#### The CDC Recommends Yearly Immunization for Health Care Workers

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends annual influenza immunization for health care personnel. Furthermore, **[INSERT NAME OF FACILITY]** encourages ALL staff to protect themselves against influenza with yearly immunization.

These recommendations are in place to help us protect our patients who are at high risk for influenza-related complications and to help us protect ourselves and our families from influenza.

Influenza Vaccine Will Be Available to Employees Beginning on **[INSERT DATE]**  
Free vaccination clinics will be held \_\_\_\_\_ for all employees—stay tuned for details about the dates and locations. **[INSERT DETAILS ABOUT OTHER PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE FLU VACCINATION PROGRAM, E.G., INCENTIVES, ETC.]**

#### Common Myths about Influenza

*Myth #1: Influenza is just a bad cold.*

**Fact:** Influenza is caused by the influenza virus and is much more serious than the common cold. Each year over 200,000 Americans are hospitalized and more than 36,000 die from influenza and its complications.

Symptoms of influenza can be severe and can last for up to two weeks. Symptoms can include high fever, body aches, headache, and extreme fatigue.

*Myth #2: I don't need to be immunized. I'm healthy.*

**Fact:** Health care workers are at increased risk for contracting influenza because of exposure from patients and in the community. In addition, unvaccinated health care workers can still spread the virus to others, including patients and family members even before they feel sick. Immunization is the best way to prevent getting or spreading influenza.

## **SAMPLE EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE #3:**

# **Get Vaccinated: Free Influenza Immunization Offered to Employees**

Influenza season is here and it's time to get immunized. **[INSERT NAME OF FACILITY]** is offering free vaccination to all employees beginning next week. Vaccination clinics will be held **[INSERT TIMES, DATES, LOCATIONS OF CLINIC]**.

**[INSERT INFORMATION ABOUT INCENTIVES, DEPARTMENTAL COMPETITION, OR OTHER PROMOTIONS TO ENCOURAGE IMMUNIZATION]**.

In accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), **[INSERT FACILITY NAME]** recommends all employees be immunized against influenza.

### ***Protect Your Patients. Protect Yourself.***

Many of our patients are considered high-risk for influenza-related complications, which can result in death. In addition, health care workers are at increased risk for getting influenza due to their exposure from patients and in the community.

Immunization is the best way to prevent influenza and avoid spreading it to others, including patients, co-workers and loved ones, who may be at high risk for influenza-related complications.

### **About Influenza**

Each year, over 200,000 Americans are hospitalized and over 36,000 die from influenza and influenza-related complications. In fact, influenza – a vaccine-preventable disease – is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States.

### **For More Information**

Contact **[INSERT NAME OF DEPARTMENT AND INDIVIDUAL WHO IS IN-CHARGE OF THE INFLUENZA CLINIC; INSERT PHONE NUMBER OR E-MAIL ADDRESS]** with questions about influenza, immunization, or the vaccination clinic.