March 21, 2019

Dear Administrator:

The Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination Report will open on Thursday, March 21, 2019 and must be electronically submitted to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) by May 1, 2019. All facilities covered under New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, Title 10, Section 2.59 (10 NYCRR Section 2.59) are required to document the number and percentage of personnel vaccinated against influenza for the current season and to complete this report upon request of the NYSDOH.

This year’s report covers healthcare personnel (HCP) employed by or affiliated with your facility or agency from October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019. Your facility or agency should enter available data in February and then resubmit as often as is necessary as new HCP join your facility or agency and/or submit documentation of vaccination. The report may be accessed on the Health Electronic Response Data System (HERDS) at https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/. See the attached instruction card for detailed guidance on how to access, complete, and submit the report on HERDS.

A pre-recorded webinar training session for the Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination Report is available online at www.health.ny.gov/FluMaskReg under the heading “Training”. Please ensure that the person completing the report at your facility views the pre-recorded webinar and reviews all instructions and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) available at the above website before completing the report. Please see the enclosures for copies of the instructions, an FAQ document on the report, and a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance document on methods and strategies that can be used to collect HCP influenza vaccination data. The CDC document is also available at: http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/HPS/General-Strategies-HCP-Groups.pdf.

Questions about the report should be directed to the NYSDOH Bureau of Immunization at either (518) 473-4437 or immunize@health.ny.gov. Technical questions about the report or on the use of HERDS should be directed to the Health Emergency Preparedness Program at (518) 408-5163 or hseppny@health.ny.gov. Questions about 10 NYCRR Section 2.59 should be directed to flumaskreg@health.ny.gov. Further information regarding 10 NYCRR Section 2.59 is also available on the NYSDOH website at www.health.ny.gov/FluMaskReg.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Rausch-Phung, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, Bureau of Immunization

Enclosures