



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

MAY 26 2017

HEALTH AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (HEALTH
SERVICES POLICY AND OVERSIGHT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR
MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY

SUBJECT: Guidance for the 2017–2018 Annual Influenza Immunization Program

The forthcoming Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 6205.02, “DoD Immunization Program,” will require that all Active Duty and Reserve Component personnel, and DoD civilian health care personnel be immunized annually against influenza with vaccines approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and in accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Accordingly, addressees should assure that their members receive their annual influenza vaccinations. The annual program will be administered in accordance with Defense Health Agency instructions augmented by Service-specific guidance.

The Department orders more than 3 million doses of influenza vaccine annually. Military medical treatment facilities (MTFs) should expect multiple deliveries starting in August and continuing for several months. MTFs should begin immunization immediately upon receipt of the vaccine. Commanders are responsible for establishing policies and procedures to maximize usage and minimize loss of vaccine to prevent avoidable waste of government resources.

We applaud the efforts of the Services and the Combatant Commands in preparing for seasonal influenza. Our goal is to exceed 90 percent immunization of military Service members and health care personnel by December 15, 2017.



David J Smith, M.D.
Performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary
of Defense for Health Affairs

cc:

- Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs)
- Director, Defense Health Agency
- Surgeon General of the Army
- Surgeon General of the Navy
- Surgeon General of the Air Force
- Director, Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support
- Director of Health, Safety and Work-Life, U.S. Coast Guard
- Director, Marine Corps Staff