

LAC DPH Health Update

Influenza and COVID-19 Immunization or Masking Requirement for Healthcare Personnel October 4, 2023



This message is intended for all healthcare providers working in LA County.

Please distribute as appropriate.

Key Messages

- During the 2023-2024 respiratory virus season, all healthcare personnel (HCP) working in licensed healthcare facilities in LA County are required, by <u>County Health Officer Order</u>, to receive both an annual influenza and an updated COVID-19 vaccine (2023-2024 formula). HCP who do not receive both these vaccines are required to wear a respiratory mask for the duration of the season when in contact with patients or when working in patient-care areas.
- The respiratory virus season is November 1, 2023, through April 30, 2024.

2023-2024 Annual Immunization or Masking Requirement for HCP

Since 2013, LA County has had a Health Officer Order (HOO) requiring HCP in certain healthcare settings to receive an annual influenza immunization or to wear a respiratory mask during the respiratory virus season.

Starting this 2023-2024 respiratory virus season, the HOO requires that HCP working in all licensed healthcare facilities in LA County receive the 2023-2024 updated COVID-19 vaccine in addition to an annual influenza vaccine or they must wear a respiratory mask when in contact with patients or working in patient-care areas.

The HOO remains in effect during each respiratory virus season, unless rescinded. Additionally, given the risk posed by influenza and COVID-19, Public Health strongly encourages other unlicensed healthcare and direct care entities to voluntarily adopt the same measures for their employees to protect their personnel and patients during the respiratory virus season.

Learn more from the following DPH resources:

- Health Officer Order FAQs
- Rationale for mandated influenza and COVID-19 immunizations
- Fact sheets for HCP: <u>Influenza vaccination</u> and <u>COVID-19 vaccination</u>

• Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program Provider website

This communication was sent by Dr. Muntu Davis, County Health Officer, Department of Public Health

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