

## **Encourage Flu Shots Even as the Season Winds Down**

Although this flu season officially ends May 17, 2025, we encourage you to remind your patients to get their flu vaccine. The virus continues to circulate and can run into the summer months. Reminding your patients of the benefits of getting the flu vaccine is highly encouraged.

We appreciate and support your efforts in helping our communities stay healthy and safe. Early in the flu season, we completed several member and community outreach activities. These focused on reducing the number of office and emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and deaths due to the flu.

## **Vaccinations Strongly Encouraged**

We encourage everyone eligible for an annual flu shot to get vaccinated and to stay up to date with **all other recommended vaccinations**. Parents should also make sure their children are current on all vaccinations.

As a reminder to all Floridians, we are once again sharing links to three videos featuring our Florida Blue Medicare Chief Medical Officer Thomas Graf. In the videos, he shares valuable information about flu shots, especially for vulnerable groups, such as older adults and those with chronic diseases.

- Why Do I Need a Flu Shot? (Older adult focused)
- Is the Flu Shot Safe?
- Who Should Get a Flu Shot?

## **Where Patients Can Get Flu Shots**

If you are unable to accommodate a flu vaccination, please direct our member to Walgreens or another one of our in-network pharmacies. For patients who do not have insurance, Walgreens offers a limited number of vouchers to provide the flu vaccine at no cost.

Together, we can ensure more people get their flu vaccinations, and, in doing so, help make patients, members, families, and communities safer and healthier.