



Improving **INFLUENZA VACCINATION**
Rates in Adults and Children with **DIABETES**

Identifying and overcoming immunization barriers in this high-risk population

REMINDER LETTER OR E-MAIL

[INSERT practice logo of letterhead]

Dear [INSERT Patient name]:

Did you know people with diabetes are three times more likely to die of influenza? That's why we urge everyone with diabetes to get the influenza vaccine every year. It's the best way to protect yourself from this dangerous illness.

Influenza kills more Americans than all other vaccine-preventable diseases combined. Influenza also sends over 200,000 people to the hospital every year, many of them infants and young children and people with medical conditions like diabetes.

People with diabetes are not the only ones who should be vaccinated. Public health experts and [INSERT practice/Dr. Name] urge vaccination every year for:

- ❖ Any child 6 months up to 5 years of age
- ❖ Anyone 50 years of age and older
- ❖ Children and adolescents (6 months to 18 years of age) on long-term aspirin therapy
- ❖ Women who will be pregnant during influenza season (September-May)
- ❖ Residents of nursing homes or similar facilities
- ❖ Anyone with asthma or other lung disorders, heart conditions, kidney problems, blood disorders, respiratory disorders, or immune problems including HIV/AIDS
- ❖ People who come in close contact with anyone listed above

[INSERT A or B as appropriate]

A: We provide influenza vaccines at [INSERT times/availability; e.g., at all visits, during special clinic hours, etc.].

Please call our office at [INSERT telephone] to make an appointment to get your vaccine.

B: We urge you get vaccinated. Please check with your primary care physician about getting a vaccine. Influenza vaccines are also available at [INSERT names of local pharmacies or other retail establishments, health facilities, etc. that offer vaccination services].

Sincerely,

[INSERT appropriate signature]

Schedule your vaccination today!