

TO: Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities/Mental Retardation, State and County Governmental Psychiatric Hospitals Residential Treatment Centers, Providers of Pharmaceutical Services

SUBJECT: Influenza Update - 1992

The purpose of this Newsletter is to share with you this year's recommendations of the Immunization Practices Advisory Committee on Influenza Prevention and Control, published by the United States Public Health Service (Centers for Disease Control, MMWR, May 15, 1992, Vol. 41/No.RR-9).

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services would like to remind providers of long term care services that influenza immunization is a covered service. In addition, the prevention of influenza in nursing facilities and other institutional settings is a high priority. As a result, the Division is sending the attached publication to you for your information.

The Pharmaceutical Consultant in the Medicaid District Office can advise you of the procedure if you are not already familiar with the method used in obtaining and billing for a vaccine used in a long-term care setting. However, it is important to remember that although the physician orders the immunization for the patient, he/she may not bill for the administration in a health care facility where facility staff normally administers the injection.

Attachment