



Erie County
Department of
Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

GALE R. BURSTEIN, MD, MPH, FAAP
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

HEALTH ADVISORY #364

December 20, 2024

NYS Department of Health Commissioner Declares Influenza Prevalent in the State

Please distribute to Healthcare Providers, Hospitals, Laboratories, Emergency Rooms, Community Health Centers, College Health Centers, and Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatric, Adolescent Medicine, Infectious Disease, and Primary Care Providers

SUMMARY

The New York State Department of Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald declares influenza to be prevalent in New York State for the 2024-25 influenza season, as of the date of this announcement. In accordance with Section 2.59 of the New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR § 2.59), all healthcare and residential facilities and agencies regulated pursuant to Article 28, 36, or 40 of the public health law, shall ensure that all personnel, as defined in the regulation, not vaccinated against influenza for the current influenza season wear a surgical or procedure mask while in areas where patients or residents are typically present. This declaration shall remain in effect until the Commissioner declares influenza no longer prevalent in New York State.

At this time, please activate your facility's or agency's policy and procedure to ensure compliance with 10 NYCRR § 2.59.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Frequently Asked Questions regarding the regulation and other resources are available at <http://health.ny.gov/FluMaskReg>

For more information please direct questions to FluMaskReg@health.ny.gov

Health Category Definitions:

Health Alert FLASH: conveys the highest level of importance due to a large-scale, catastrophic public health emergency; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Alert Priority: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention to a health problem or situation

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary



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