

Mandatory flu vaccine for health care workers to protect patients

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All health care workers in health care institutions should be vaccinated with the annual influenza vaccine to protect patients, argues an editorial in *CMAJ*.

"Each season, 20% of [health care workers](#) get influenza, and 28% of young healthy adults who get it have asymptomatic or subclinical infections," writes Dr. Ken Flegel, Senior Associate Editor, *CMAJ*.

"Some of them may shed virus up to a day before symptoms appear. It is time that all people who work in a health care institution be vaccinated."

In Canada, there are approximately 20 000 hospital admissions related to influenza and an estimated 4000 to 8000 deaths attributed to the illness. However, 55%

Provided by Canadian Medical Association Journal

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