

**To:** AmeriHealth Caritas DC Providers

**Date:** October 27, 2020

## Subject: Remind your patients to get their flu shot

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), receiving a flu vaccine this 2020-2021 season is more important than ever in order to minimize the spread of flu and help reduce the strain on healthcare systems responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, we want to remind you that your patients that are six months and older should get a flu vaccine.

AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia (DC) enrollees may go to their primary care provider or a pharmacy in our network with a photo ID and an AmeriHealth Caritas DC ID card to receive a flu shot at no cost. We are reaching out to our enrollees, and we ask that you also spread the word to your patients. **If an AmeriHealth Caritas DC enrollee does not know where to go to get their flu shot, please direct them to call our Community Outreach Solutions team at 202-216-2318.** 

While everyone should get a flu shot each year, it is especially important for the following groups who are at high risk of developing serious flu-related complications:

- Pregnant women
- Adults 65 years and older
- Children younger than 5
- People of any age with certain chronic health conditions including asthma, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and HIV/AIDS
- For more information, visit <u>https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/index.htm</u>

## Immunization guidance

The CDC released Interim Guidance for Immunization Services during the COVID-19 pandemic. This guidance is intended to help immunization providers in a variety of clinical and alternative settings with the safe administration of vaccines during pandemic. This guidance will be continually reassessed and updated based on the evolving epidemiology of COVID-19 in the United States. Access this resource by visiting <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pandemic-guidance/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pandemic-guidance/index.html</a>.