

Physician **MEMO**

To | All Medical Staff

From | Stephen Wallenhaupt, MD EVP & Chief Medical Officer

Date | September, 31 2011

Re | **Flu Vaccine for Physicians**

We, the employees of Novant and our physician partners, will deliver the most remarkable patient experience, in every dimension, every time.

Our Novant vision expresses well the goals we have for the patients we serve, expecting high quality, excellent service and safe care. During Flu season this is especially important.

Each year the CDC estimates that influenza-related illnesses contribute to 36,000 deaths and more than 200,000 hospitalizations in the United States. With a safe and effective vaccine, these outcomes can be prevented. Moreover, our roles as providers in contact with patients every day make it imperative that we are not responsible for causing harm to our patients. As influenza can be transmitted during the 24-48 hour asymptomatic incubation period, the best way we can protect our patients is by receiving the vaccine ourselves.

This year's 2011–2012 seasonal influenza vaccine contains the following three vaccine viruses:

- A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus;
- A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2)-like virus; and
- B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus.

These are the same viruses that were selected for the Northern Hemisphere for the 2010-2011 influenza vaccine and last year's experience reflected that the vaccine was effective, well tolerated and very safe.

Beginning next week, Novant facilities will start vaccinations for staff. As our physician partners, you are able to receive the vaccine free of charge at any Novant acute care facility Flu clinic, departmental site visits, or Employee Occupational Health office. Your physician assistants and nurse practitioners can also receive the influenza vaccinations at no charge.

There are more than 75 scheduled Flu clinics across Novant. The Novant Intranet Homepage has a link to all the clinics scheduled ([75+ vaccination clinics](#)).



Remarkable People. Remarkable Medicine.