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To: Nevada County Hospitals, Skilled Nursing and other Long-Term Care Facilities, Ambulatory and Community Clinics, Medical Practices and other Healthcare Facilities

From: Ken Cutler, MD, MPH; Nevada County Health Officer

Subject: Health Officer Order Regarding Influenza Vaccination of Healthcare Workers, End of Flu Season

Dear Colleagues:

The Nevada County Health Officer order mandating healthcare facilities in Nevada County to implement a program requiring their healthcare workers to receive an annual influenza vaccine and to implement a plan for handling declinations *ends on April 30th of each year*. This season's order is *not* being extended beyond that date given recent declines in flu surveillance indicators.

However, surveillance does show that influenza is still widespread and relatively high for this time of year. The 2018-2019 flu season began with H1N1 being the dominant strain but switched to H3N2. Preliminary analysis shows the vaccine match has been very good for H1N1 but not for H3N2. There could still be several more weeks of flu transmission and illness so please continue to be vigilant in its diagnosis, treatment, and prevention strategies.

Thank you for your efforts to minimize the spread of the flu during this very long season.