



EL DORADO COUNTY
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY *Public Health Division*

HEALTH OFFICER, EL DORADO COUNTY

Date: *[Effective October, 2024]*

To: Hospitals, Ambulatory and Community Clinics, Medical Practices, Public Health and Mental Health Divisions, First Responders, Long Term Care Facilities, and Jails

RE: Beginning of the 2024-2025 Influenza Season, Vaccination and Mask Recommendations

El Dorado County Health Officer announces that the beginning date for the annual healthcare worker influenza vaccination-and-masking recommendations for the 2024-2025 flu season will be *[effective October, 2024]*. For individuals who do not have a contraindication, seasonal influenza and COVID-19 vaccination is recommended. While vaccination is not a guarantee against contracting the illness, it will reduce the severity of the illness and can prevent the need for hospitalization or death.

As always, we recommend that healthcare institutions that see an uptick in cases not be precluded from implementing infection control precautions as appropriate, including vaccination and masking recommendations, requirements, or protocols. We encourage all healthcare staff to be cautious about potentially transmitting any illness, especially when working around people vulnerable to developing severe illness from any respiratory pathogen. Necessary precautions include staying home when experiencing symptoms of illness and voluntarily wearing medical masks around vulnerable people.

For more information and definitions of licensed healthcare facilities, see California Health & Safety Code §§ [1200-1209](#) and §§ [1250-1264](#). This decision is based on discussions with stakeholders and epidemiological data that show that influenza activity will potentially increase [state](#) and county-wide.

Resources:

1. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>
2. CDPH: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Influenza.aspx>

For more information about the Influenza Season Vaccination-and/or-Masking, contact the El Dorado County Public Health Communicable Disease Unit at 530-621-6320.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Minson".

Matthew Minson, MD
Public Health Officer

Strengthening, Empowering and Protecting the Residents of El Dorado County
