



## **Influenza Vaccination Resolution Board of Directors of the Indiana Hospital Association September 2015\***

WHEREAS, Indiana's hospitals are committed to creating systems of care that prevent harm to patients; and

WHEREAS, influenza is a highly contagious disease that can be spread before symptoms appear and results in about 150,000 hospital admissions and 24,000 deaths annually with hospitalized patients being particularly vulnerable to the dangers of influenza because their immune systems are often compromised by illness that caused their admission or the treatments they are undergoing; and

WHEREAS, vaccination of healthcare workers has been shown to prevent illness and death in patients, and reduce influenza infections and absenteeism among healthcare workers; and

WHEREAS, despite a recommendation from the CDC since 1981 for health care workers to be vaccinated, rates were at 77.3 percent in 2014-2015; and mandatory healthcare worker influenza vaccinations are recommended by the American Academy of Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Physicians, the American Hospital Association, the American Medical Directors Association, the American Pharmacists Association, the American Public Health Association, the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc., the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the National Business Group on Health, the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID), the National Patient Safety Foundation, and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America; and

WHEREAS, Healthy People 2020 established a goal of 90 percent health care worker vaccination rate; and The Joint Commission developed a standard for hospitals to incrementally raise their vaccination rate to 90 percent; and reporting of health care workers vaccination rate to NHSN (national health care safety network) began in January 2013 and impacted the Inpatient Quality Reporting Program for fiscal year 2015 payment determination;

**BE IT RESOLVED THEREFORE**, that the Board of Directors of the Indiana Hospital Association encourages every Indiana hospital to adopt a mandatory policy requiring healthcare worker influenza vaccinations as a comprehensive approach to prevent all health care-associated infections; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors directs the Indiana Hospital Association staff to research and make available a resource guide on developing and implementing healthcare worker influenza vaccinations to its members.

\*Resolution originally approved by Board of Directors November 30, 2011. The resolution was revised to reflect the 2014-2015 health care worker immunization rate. More information is available:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6436a1.htm?s\\_cid=mm6436a1\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6436a1.htm?s_cid=mm6436a1_w)