

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER MANDATE AND HEALTHCARE WORKER VACCINATION

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Long-term Care Facility Influenza Symposium
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INFLUENZA



Image Credit: San Diego Historical Society



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OBJECTIVES



- **To understand the local health officer order to mandate that healthcare providers either get immunized with seasonal influenza vaccine or mask while providing patient care during the influenza season.**
- **To understand the role of staff immunization in preventing influenza in long-term care facilities.**
- **To understand how long-term care staff can influence community behavior to lessen the impact of influenza during the season.**



- **Since 11/4/14, San Diego County has had a PHO order in place mandating HCP to receive an annual flu vaccination or, if they decline, to wear a mask while in contact with patients or working in patient care areas during each flu season.**
- **Applies to that all licensed acute care hospitals, ambulatory and community clinics, EMS agencies, LTCFs and SNFs.**
- **Order updated on 11/1/17 to also include private physician practices and clarification for EMS agencies (includes EMTs, EMTs, and paramedics.)**



- **Covers the “season” from Nov 1 to Mar 31, may be extended (as it was in the 17-18 season till Apr 30).**
- **Authority derives from California Health & Safety Code section 120175**
- **Do other counties have similar orders? Yes!**
 - **40/55 for hospitals and LTCFs**
 - **26/55 for outpatient clinics**
 - **16/55 for EMS agencies**

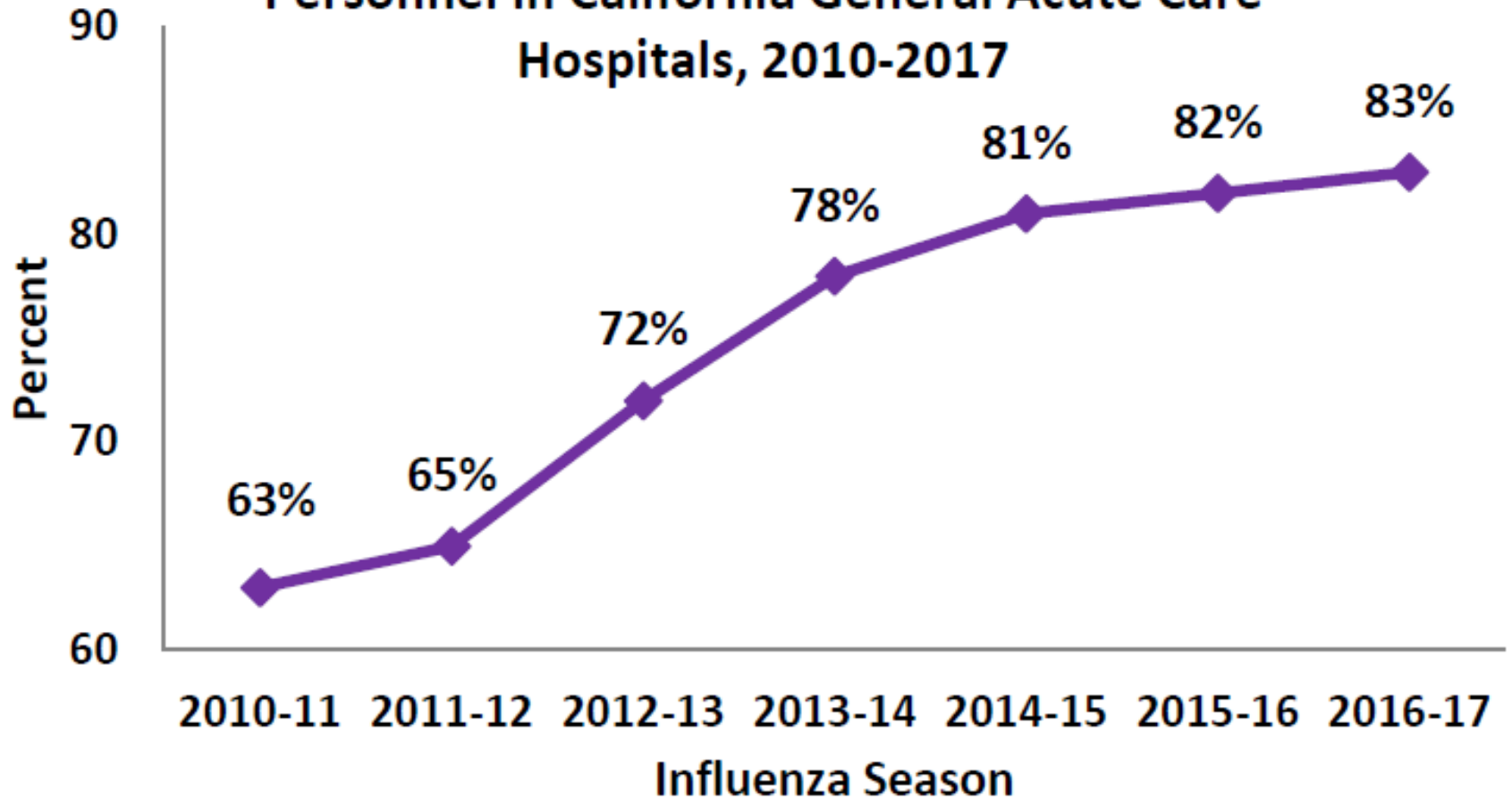


- **Studies suggest that up to 25% of HCP are infected with influenza each season**
- **HCP are more likely to work when ill than other professionals**
- **As many as 1 in 2 infected people never show classic flu symptoms, but can shed virus for 5-10 days**



- **Patient admissions and HCP absenteeism go up in flu season, operational impact of flu is substantial – vaccine prevents cases!**
- **Studies suggest that up to 25% of HCP are infected with influenza each season**
- **Higher staff vaccination levels are associated with lower risk of nosocomial flu cases and mortality**

Figure 1. Influenza Vaccination among Health Care Personnel in California General Acute Care Hospitals, 2010-2017

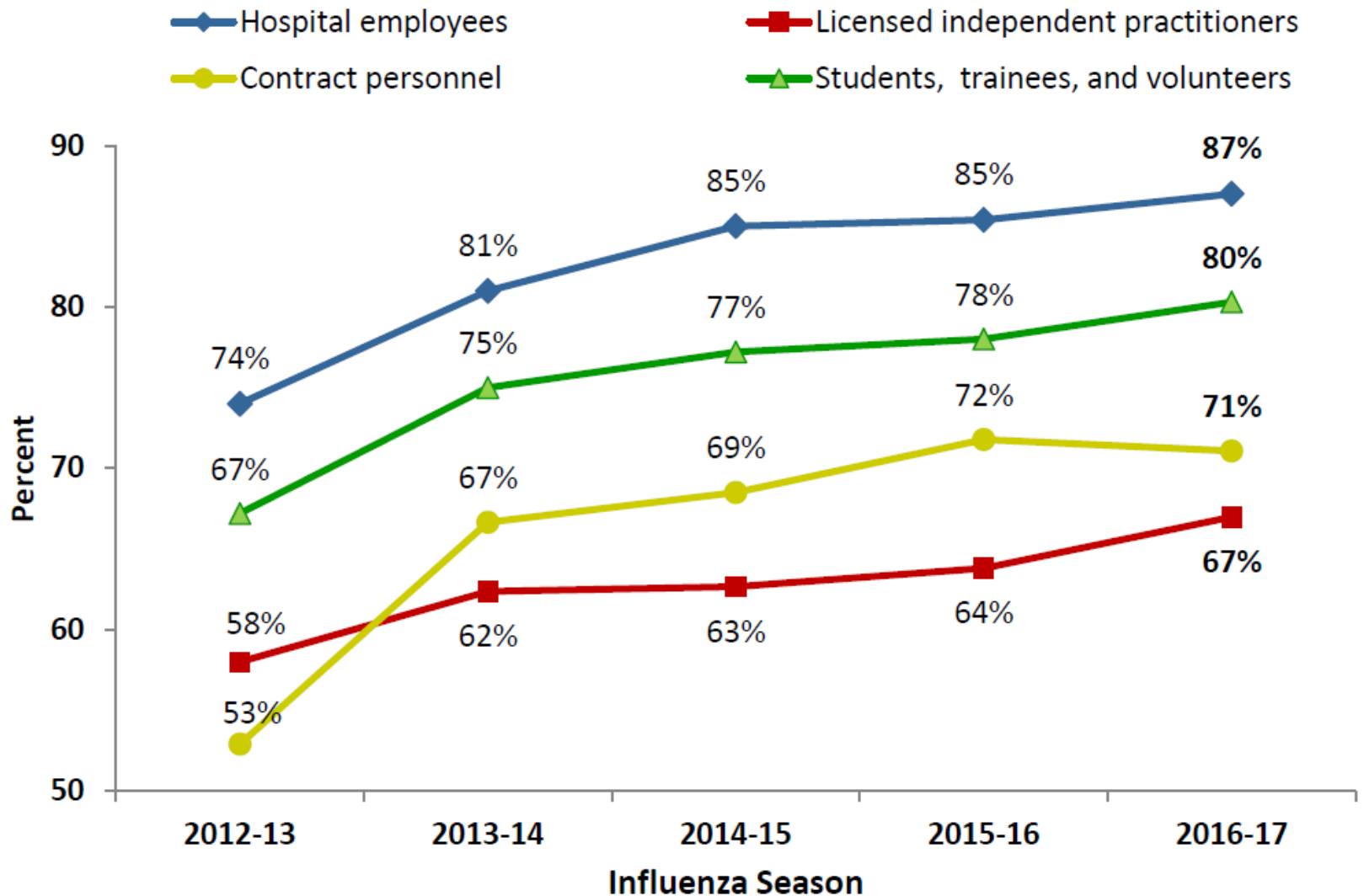


HP 2020 Goal 90%

Source: CDPH HAI Program. Downloaded 11/5/18 from:

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/HCP_InfluenzaVaccReport2016_2017FinalApproved11.05.17.pdf

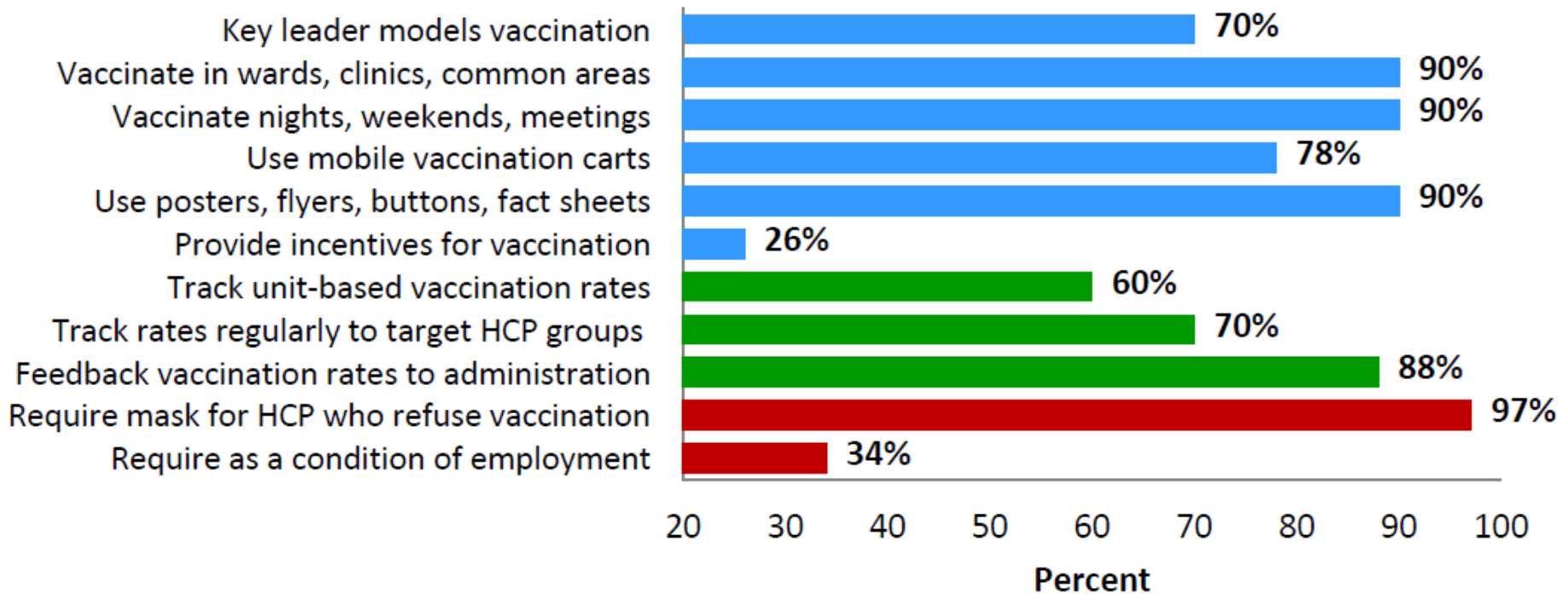
Figure 2. Influenza Vaccination in California Hospitals by Health Care Personnel Category, 2012-2017



Source: CDPH HAI Program. Downloaded 11/5/18 from:

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/HCP_InfluenzaVaccReport2016_2017FinalApproved11.05.17.pdf

Figure 5. California Hospital Activities to Promote Health Care Personnel Influenza Vaccination, 2016-2017



Activities include promoting vaccination and providing easy access (■), tracking and using vaccination data (■), and implementing administrative requirements (■)

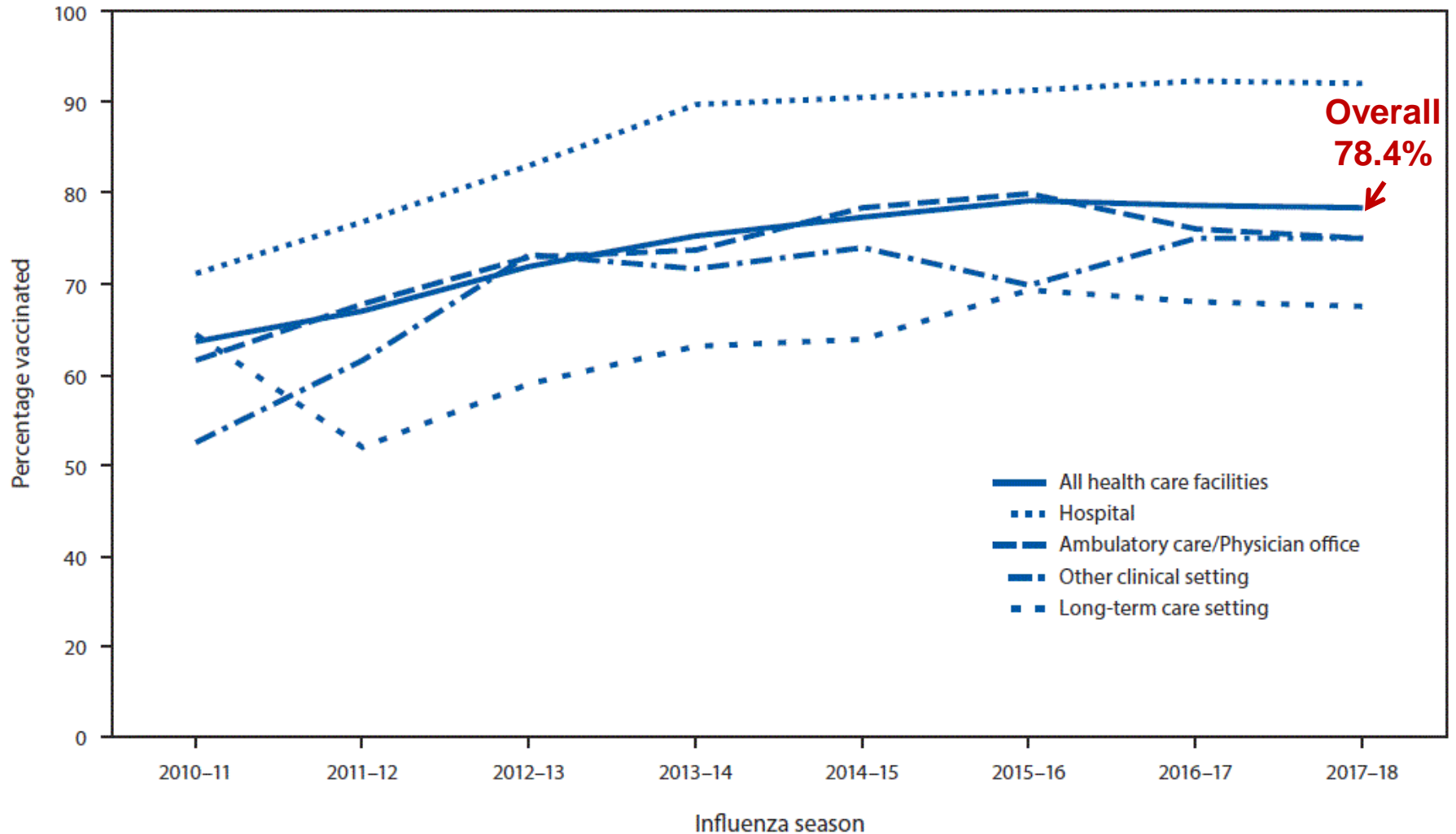
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- **San Diego hospitals are better than most in the state**
 - **2016-17 season: only 3 not on track to make 90% goal**
 - **12 hospitals already over 90% goal**
 - **Percentages increased after local PHO order**
 - **2017-18 data should be out very soon**
- **Don't have local data on LTCF's - but....**

Percentage of health care personnel who received influenza vaccination, by work setting* — Internet panel surveys,† United States, 2010–11 through 2017–18 influenza seasons



Source: CDC MMWR 9/28/18. Downloaded 11/5/18 from https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6738a2.htm#F1_down



Flu vaccination coverage among HCP working in LTCFs continues to be consistently lower than that among HCP working in all other health care settings.

Flu vaccination among HCP in LTCFs is especially important because vaccine efficacy is generally lowest among the elderly, who are at increased risk for severe disease.

In contrast to HCP working in hospitals, a much lower proportion of survey respondents working in LTC settings reported having a requirement for vaccination, and 23.5% reported that their employer did not require, make available on-site at no cost, or promote vaccination in any way.

Implementing workplace vaccination programs that have been successful in increasing coverage in hospital settings, including vaccination requirements, could increase coverage in LTC and other settings.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?



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- **Consider signage that encourages visitors/family members to get influenza vaccination**
- **Promote vaccination to YOUR family, friends – let them know about how they are protecting the most vulnerable**
- **Check immunization status of all new admissions give the hospital and the health department feedback on transfers who have not been immunized**



- **What are YOUR challenges in getting HCP and other LTCF employees vaccinated?**
- **What can facilitate antiviral treatment and post-exposure prophylaxis in YOUR facility when there is an outbreak?**
- **What part of the influenza outbreak preparedness plan is the most challenging to create and to execute?**
- **How can our health department help you prepare for influenza?**
- **How can hospitals help you prepare AND respond to influenza?**



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