

Department of

# Memorandum


**Date:** September 23, 2021

**From:** Acting Under Secretary for Health

**Subj:** VHA Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Program for VHA Health Care Personnel – November 30 Deadline

**To:** Network Directors (10N1-23), Medical Center Directors, Chief Medical Officers, Chief Nurse Executives

1. As we begin our 2021-22 influenza “flu” season, we continue to face the challenge of caring for those with COVID-19. I thank each one of you for your dedication to the Veterans we serve and, in particular, those with COVID-19.
2. Influenza vaccination of Health Care Personnel (HCP) is central to our efforts to prevent influenza virus transmission and contributes to maintaining both a healthy environment to care for patients and a safer workplace for all employees.
3. I remind you that [Directive 1192.01](#), which requires HCP to get a flu vaccine, remains in effect. ***The deadline for HCP to get vaccinated with a flu vaccine or to submit a medical or religious exemption is November 30, 2021.*** Compliance with this directive is a condition of employment.
4. I am asking all VA facilities to push out messages via staff meetings, facility electronic newsletters, digital signage, and other venues to inform HCP about this requirement. I also encourage you to utilize screen savers on employee desktops to remind employees to get vaccinated.
5. Frequent handwashing, wearing masks and maintaining physical distancing continue to be critical measures to protect ourselves from COVID-19 and influenza transmission.
6. Please direct questions pertaining to Directive 1192.01 to [VHAEOHProgram@va.gov](mailto:VHAEOHProgram@va.gov). Questions related to communication methods can be directed to Michelle Spivak, VHA Office of Communications, at [michelle.spivakmelinger@va.gov](mailto:michelle.spivakmelinger@va.gov). Thank you for your attention to this important disease prevention matter.



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