Help Reduce the FLU@Work

Each influenza (or flu) season is unique and cannot be predicted. On average, approximately five to 20 percent of US residents get the flu each year. Influenza infections are associated with substantial medical costs, more than 200,000 hospitalizations and thousands of deaths annually in the US. Wondering how you can stop the flu in its tracks? Here's a simple checklist.



GET A FLU VACCINE

The flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. Ask your doctor where you can get a flu vaccine, or visit flu.gov to use the flu vaccine finder.





FOLLOW SIMPLE PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Practice flu etiquette. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 Germs spread easily this way.
- Stay home. If you are sick, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities.



TRACK THE FLU

Visit FluFACTS.com to track the flu by ZIP code.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: www.nfid.org





KNOW THE F.A.C.T.S. — IS IT A COLD OR THE FLU?

	Signs and Symptoms	Flu	Cold
Source: National Institutes of Health	Fever	Usually present (100 degrees or greater)	Rare
	Aches	Usual, often severe	Slight
	Chills	Fairly common	Uncommon
	Tiredness	Moderate to severe	Mild
	Symptom onset	Symptoms appear suddenly (within 3-6 hours)	Symptoms appear gradually
	Other Symptoms		
	Headache	Common	Rare
	Stuffy Nose	Sometimes	Common
	Sneezing	Sometimes	Usual
	Sore Throat	Sometimes	Common
	Chest Discomfort, Cough	Common; can become severe	Mild to moderate; hacking cough

Think you've been exposed to the flu? If your co-workers have the flu, you may be next. There may be steps you can take, such as taking antiviral medicines, that can prevent you from getting the flu and spreading it to others at work.





CALL YOUR DOCTOR

Feeling sick? If you have flu symptoms, call your doctor immediately. He or she may prescribe antiviral medicines that directly attack the flu virus and may help you feel better faster. It is important to call your doctor quickly, as it is best to take these medicines within two days of getting sick with the flu.





STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Influenza can spread quickly in the workplace, especially if people are coming to work sick and not visiting a doctor for appropriate treatment. If you have the flu, stay home to avoid infecting your co-workers.