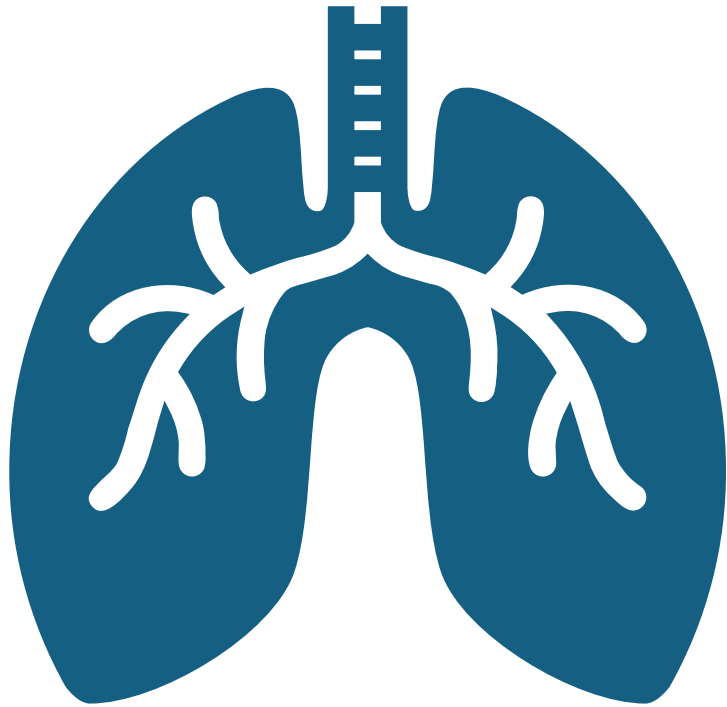




Preparing for the 2026-2027 Viral Respiratory Season

August 26, 2026

ICNC Meeting

Recommended Facility Preparedness Actions

Launch Vaccination Campaigns Early

Administrators and clinical leaders should:

- Order flu vaccines (if not already done)
- Schedule resident vaccination clinics before peak influenza activity.
- Offer influenza vaccination to all healthcare personnel.
- Track vaccine uptake rates among residents and staff.
- Use standing orders to facilitate timely vaccination.
- Provide targeted education addressing vaccine hesitancy.



Recommended Facility Preparedness Actions

Strengthen Respiratory Virus Surveillance

Facilities should:

- Monitor residents and staff for influenza-like illness.
- Track community respiratory virus activity.
- Establish clear reporting pathways for clusters of illness.
- Ensure timely access to influenza testing.



Recommended Facility Preparedness Actions

Review Outbreak Response Plans

Before influenza activity increases, verify that protocols address:

- Case identification
- Testing procedures
- Isolation and transmission-based precautions
- Antiviral treatment access
- Antiviral chemoprophylaxis during outbreaks
- Communication with local public health authorities and families

Recommended Facility Preparedness Actions

Ensure Adequate Supplies

Maintain inventories of:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Diagnostic testing supplies
- Hand hygiene products
- Cleaning and disinfection supplies
- Antiviral medication access pathways through pharmacy partners



Recommended Facility Preparedness Actions

Reinforce Infection Prevention Practices

CDC recommends a comprehensive approach that includes:

- Vaccination
- Early testing
- Prompt treatment
- Hand hygiene
- Respiratory etiquette
- Appropriate use of masks and PPE during periods of increased respiratory virus activity
- Education for staff, residents, and visitors

Recommended Facility Preparedness Actions

Healthcare Personnel Vaccination

Annual vaccination of healthcare personnel remains one of the most effective measures to reduce influenza transmission in healthcare settings. CDC notes that healthcare worker vaccination has been associated with reduced absenteeism and fewer influenza-related deaths among nursing home residents.

RESOURCES



CDC (4/13/2026). [2026-2027 Flu Season | Influenza \(Flu\) | CDC](#)



CDC (6/10/2026). [ACIP Recommendations Summary | Influenza \(Flu\) | CDC](#)



CDC (3/30/2026). [Viral Respiratory Pathogens Toolkit for Nursing Homes | LTCFs | CDC](#)

“ICNC Updates & Upcoming Events.”

- We are excited about the conference program currently being developed, with topics including:
- **Infection Prevention and the Advantages of AI**
- **Antibiotic Stewardship & the Connecticut Antibiotic Stewardship Honor Roll** – presented by the Connecticut HAI-AR Team
- **The Importance of Diagnostic Stewardship**
- **Water Management**
- Vendor networking, lunch, raffles, and more!
- Additional conference details, including registration information, will be shared as they are finalized.
- We hope you can join us for the monthly webinar and look forward to seeing many of you in October!



Details

- **INFECTION CONTROL NURSES OF CONNECTICUT**
- **2026 INFECTION PREVENTION CONFERENCE**
- **Innovation • Stewardship • Prevention**
- **Wednesday, October 21, 2026**
Conference Program: 8:45 AM – 2:45 PM
- **Glastonbury Hills Country Club**
239 Country Club Road
Glastonbury, Connecticut



Infection Control Nurses of Connecticut

Since 1984, we have brought together infection preventionists to enhance safety and control practices in **healthcare** across Connecticut. We are looking forward to you joining **us**. Members can explore recorded webinars, upcoming events, relevant archived documents, and more at both our exclusive **Member's Portal** and **CT Infection Connection's** eMail chat resource.

[Member's Portal](#)[Membership / Application](#)[CT Infection Connection eMail Chat](#)[Annual Conference Registration](#)[Vendor Table Assignment](#)

ICNC Annual Conference

How to Register

[Infection Control Nurses of CT - United for Safety](#)



- questions

