






Colleen O'Toole
**LOCAL
EXPERT**

Colleen O'Toole is president of the Greater Cincinnati Health Council.



Vaccination of health-care workers is a primary strategy being used by hospitals in our region and throughout the country to protect patients from being exposed to respiratory illnesses, including flu. And for good reason: Influenza is highly contagious, it spreads before symptoms appear and it results in about 150,000 hospital admissions and 24,000 deaths annually.


The single-most effective way to prevent the flu is to get a flu shot each year. This is why all 34 hospitals in the Greater Cincinnati region provide free vaccination for their health-care workers and it's why the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended annual vaccination of health-care workers since 1981.

Approximately 90 percent of all employees in the region were


Vaccinating  health care workers  is one way to help patients not get the flu .

The single-most effective way to prevent the flu



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34 hospitals  in the Greater Cincinnati region


provide free flu shot  for their health care

workers .

About 90% of health-care workers

region got a flu shot  last year's flu  son.

Only about 64% of health-care workers

flu shot  each year.

- Single-most effective
- 34 hospitals
- health care workers

