#### **INFLUENZA (FLU)** Management Presentation



#### PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES!

#### WHAT IS INFLUENZA? (ALSO KNOWN AS THE FLU)

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness It is caused by influenza viruses It can cause mild to severe illness and at times can lead to death It can be prevented by getting the flu vaccination each year

#### Key Facts about the Flu

- Every year in the United States, on average:
- 5% to 20% of the population are infected with the flu
- More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications
  About 36,000 people die from the flu

Symptoms of Flu Fever (usually high) Headache Extreme tiredness Dry cough Sore throat Runny or stuffy nose Muscle aches Stomach symptoms, such as nausea and diarrhea

#### **Complications of the Flu**

Pneumonia
Dehydration
Worsening of medical conditions (Asthma, Diabetes, Congestive Heart Failure)

#### How the Flu Spreads

- Respiratory droplets caused by coughing and sneezing
   Touching your mouth and nose after touching something with flu viruses on it
  - Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day **<u>before</u>** symptoms develop and up to 5 days after becoming sick

### How to prevent the Spread of Flu

Get Vaccinated!

And...

## <u>Cough Etiquette:</u>

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing and sneezing If you do not have tissues available, sneeze into your sleeve, <u>not</u> into your hands Use tissues to contain respiratory secretions; dispose of tissues after use Perform hand hygiene after contact with respiratory secretions Sit at least 3 feet away from others if you are coughing or sneezing

# The Flu Shot The flu shot contains inactivated (killed) virus

Two weeks after vaccination, antibodies develop that protect against influenza virus infection.

