



Public Affairs Office
VA Loma Linda Healthcare System
11201 Benton Street
Loma Linda, CA 92357
(909) 583-6193

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Jan. 15, 2013

VA Loma Linda Taking Precautions Against Spread of Flu

LOMA LINDA, Calif. – To protect Veterans and their family members against the spread of influenza, the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System is encouraging all of its patients and employees to take precautions and is implementing visitor restrictions in the Community Living Center (CLC) at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center.

Due to suspected cases of flu among residents, visitors to the CLC are strongly discouraged, and any visitors with flu-like symptoms are restricted from visiting the CLC until further notice. Visitation by any children to the CLC is particularly discouraged.

Vaccination is an important measure to protect against the flu. The Loma Linda VA Medical Center and VA clinics in Corona, Palm Desert, Murrieta, Rancho Cucamonga and Victorville have flu vaccine available. At the Jerry L. Pettis VA Medical Center, flu shots are available on a walk-in basis from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday thru Friday (except holidays).

A schedule for the other locations is available at:

http://www.lomalinda.va.gov/features/Flu_Shots_Available.asp

It takes about two weeks for immunity to build up after receiving the flu vaccine. The combination of vaccination, hand hygiene, covering coughs and sneezes, social distancing, and staying home when ill, offers the most effective protection against the flu.

Information is available for Veterans on when to seek medical care for the flu and treating someone with the flu at home. For more information visit:

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/flu/index.asp>

- MORE -

FLU 2/2/2

The Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center is the centerpiece of the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. Opened in 1977, it is located 1/2 mile from its major affiliate, Loma Linda University.

The VA Loma Linda Healthcare System is one of the top 15 employers in the Inland Empire. With approximately 2,370 employees and more than 1,000 volunteers, it serves more than 68,000 Veterans who entrust their health care needs to VA for a wide variety of services through inpatient and outpatient care.

In partnership with Loma Linda University Medical Center and Loma Linda University Healthcare, VA provides primary care and mental health at outpatient clinics located in Blythe, Corona, Palm Desert, Murrieta, Rancho Cucamonga and Victorville.