Local Health Department Recruiting
Sentinel Providers Check List

☐ Review reporting record(s) of your influenza sentinel provider. Did they meet the criteria for a regularly reporting provider (a provider who reports ≥17 of the 33 weeks from the beginning of October to the end of May)? If they didn’t you may need to discuss this further with the provider to see if they want to continue in the program or you may decide you need to find a different provider. Remember having a regularly reporting sentinel provider is a PHEP grant and local health program plan reporting requirement.

☐ Think broadly, anyone from Nurse Practitioners to school-based health centers can be a sentinel provider. Internal medicine, general medicine, pediatrics, and emergency medicine, including hospital emergency rooms and others can collect data.

☐ Identify point of contact (POC) in the sentinel provider’s office and make an appointment for a personal recruiting visit.

☐ Explain influenza surveillance using the recruitment materials:
  ☐ Sentinel provider fact sheet
  ☐ Surveillance data from DIDE (on our website)
  ☐ Enrollment form (e-mail address required)
  ☐ Review roles and responsibilities of a sentinel provider

☐ Influenza Kickoff Webinar is scheduled for Thursday September 3rd at Noon. This webinar is for local health departments and sentinel providers. It is important that the sentinel provider has a staff member attend the call. To register go to: https://wv.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx. See Course #1058771.

☐ Be sure you mention the free flu vaccine for provider staff enrolled in the sentinel provider program. For VFC provider’s vaccine will be shipped directly to the provider no action is needed on behalf of the provider. For those providers who are not VFC provider’s vaccine will be shipped directly to their local health department. The local health department will arrange for delivery/pickup.

☐ Fax the completed enrollment form to Influenza Coordinator at 304-558-8736.

☐ Sentinel provider work folder from the CDC will be sent directly to providers in September.

☐ Deliver influenza/respiratory virus specimen kit requisition form and explain how to order flu kits. Providers can submit up to 5 specimens per week.

☐ Encourage the POC to order the specimen sample kit as soon as possible, it is suggested to order two kits in the beginning (explain that they are encouraged to submit respiratory specimens weekly to OLS and that they may batch ship the specimens)

☐ Keep the lines of communication open (make sure they understand what they need to do and follow up with them throughout the season)

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