



# Student Health Services

## 2019 FLU VACCINE

It's that time of year again! **All students and employees are eligible for the flu vaccine.** If you are not available during the hours listed, you can stop in Student Health any time beginning on Friday, Oct. 11. No appointment is necessary.

| Campus      | Date               | Time                | Location                              |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| GCSOM Main  | Thursday, Oct. 10  | 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.    | Room 4011/4013                        |
| Doylestown  | Wednesday, Oct. 16 | 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. | TBD                                   |
| Guthrie     | Friday, Oct. 25    | Noon-1:30 p.m.      | Science Lecture Room                  |
| Danville    | Friday, Nov. 1     | Noon-1:30 p.m.      | AGP4 Conference Room                  |
| Holy Spirit | Friday, Nov. 8     | Noon-1:30 p.m.      | Heart Hosp 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fl Conf Rm |

AtlantiCare and MD4 students can receive their vaccines at their rotation sites through Employee Health. Please make sure that you send proof of vaccine to Student Health Services. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Paul Burke, R.N.

## MYTHS IN MEDICINE

*Dr. Thoman Challman vaccination hesitancy talk on behalf of The Preventive Medicine Interest Group*

With the growth of the anti-vaccination movement and subsequent outbreaks of preventable disease, it's easy to respond with frustration. However, it's important to remember that resistance to vaccination is as old as vaccines themselves and often stems from fear and misunderstanding. With the compulsory implementation of smallpox vaccination in mid-1800s, a significant anti-vaccination movement arose. They challenged the necessity of vaccines, safety risks and the issues of personal autonomy. More than 200 years later, the concerns about vaccines remain almost identical but now focus on MMR rather than smallpox. Current "anti-vax" theories are that vaccination additives can be harmful, multiple vaccinations overload an immature immune system and the MMR vaccine causes autism. All of these theories have been scientifically disproven, however the fear surrounding these vaccines remain.

In communicating with vaccine-hesitant parents, it is vital to understand they often *do* want what is best for their child. They may be simply misled, confused or scared about vaccines. While evidence-based medicine can be used as a tool to communicate with these parents, their fears may not be alleviated by a slew of facts. It's essential to build a relationship of trust from Day 1 and personalize your message to them. Healthcare providers play a major role in educating parents about the safety and effectiveness of vaccines and a commitment to this narrative can influence hesitant parents.

## THE STAFF

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## Student Health Services

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Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
[www.geisinger.edu/education/student-life/student-health-services](http://www.geisinger.edu/education/student-life/student-health-services)

Please call or stop in the office if interested in services ▶ ▶ ▶