



HEALTH CARE EMPLOYEE VACCINATIONS

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ISSUE

Does state law require health care employees to be vaccinated against the flu or other conditions, and have there been recent bills on this topic?

SUMMARY

Connecticut does not have mandatory vaccination laws for health care employees. In practice, many hospitals and other health care employers require staff to get certain vaccinations, especially the flu vaccine. In 2011, the Connecticut Hospital Association's (CHA) board of trustees adopted a [policy](#) endorsing mandatory influenza vaccination for hospital personnel. (All but one of Connecticut's acute care hospitals are members of CHA.)

We found five bills since 2013 on this topic, none of which made it out of committee. Four of these bills would have required flu vaccinations for health care providers generally or employees from certain categories of health care institutions ([SB 1128](#), [HB 5536](#), and [HB 5539](#) in 2013; [HB 5448](#) in 2015). A bill in 2013 ([SB 55](#)) would have prohibited employers from requiring their employees to receive flu vaccines as a condition of employment.

According to the federal [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), during the 2013-2014 flu season, 87.6% of hospital employees in Connecticut received the flu vaccine, slightly higher than the national average for hospital employees (86.1%).

For additional information on health care worker vaccinations, see the Department of Public Health's [website](#).

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