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Press Release

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## Government Health Officials Get it Wrong CDC Admits its Flu Numbers Were Wrong but Still Recommends Near-Universal Vaccination

September 2, 2010 (Washington, DC) — Last week, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) admitted to promulgating inaccurate flu death numbers: rather than 36,000 annual deaths from flu, the average over the past thirty years has actually been 23,607 deaths annually, a full one-third fewer people than previously cited.

ANH-USA states that even this "new and improved" estimate is inaccurate. The CDC has been using a mathematical estimate that is based on an assumption if a death certificate had "respiratory or circulatory disease" listed as a cause of death, then it should be counted as a "flu-related" death. And according to the CDC's own National Center for Health Statistics, the true average is only 1,348 flu deaths per year—a mere 5.7% of the "new and improved" estimate.

Despite this, the experts at the CDC now recommend for the first time near-universal flu vaccination.

"We hoped that the CDC would temper their vaccine message this flu season considering the inaccuracy of their flu death numbers, the lack of an H1N1 pandemic last year, and their wasteful over-purchase of \$260 million worth of now-useless vaccines. But that's not the case: the CDC has doubled-downed and recommended for the first time that everyone over six months old be vaccinated," said Gretchen DuBeau, executive director of the Alliance for Natural Health USA (ANH-USA).

A closer examination of the CDC's figures shows that in 2001, there were only 257 deaths directly attributable to flu, and in only eighteen cases was the flu virus positively identified.

"The CDC can't seem to quit their cozy relationship with drug makers, and the revolving door between government and pharmaceutical companies is always spinning. There are safe effective non-pharmaceutical methods, like vitamin D, to prevent the flu—but the CDC has been suspiciously quiet about them," said DuBeau. Researchers have learned that when vitamin D is lacking, people become a prime target for influenza and the H1N1 (swine flu) virus. By contrast, people with sufficient levels of vitamin D are able to fight off or throw off these attacking pathogens.

"Vitamin D is safe and effective for the prevention and treatment of seasonal and H1N1 flus. The scientific research is clear. Yet the government continues to tow the vaccine-only line, working in close partnership with vaccine manufacturers who will make billions of dollars and who have been shielded from any liability by Congress," DuBeau concluded.

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About the Alliance for Natural Health USA (ANH-USA): www.anh-usa.org The Alliance for Natural Health USA is part of an international organization dedicated to promoting natural, sustainable healthcare through good science and good law. We protect the right of natural health practitioners to practice, and the right of consumers to choose the healthcare options and treatment modalities they prefer, including complementary and alternative medicine. As a membership-based organization, we unite consumers, practitioners, and industry to speak with a common voice and have worked since 1992 to shift the medical paradigm from an exclusive focus on surgery, drugs and other conventional techniques to an "integrative" approach incorporating food, dietary supplements and lifestyle changes.