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The Potential Benefits of Delaying Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Selections: A Retrospective Modeling Studies in the United States and Australia

BIOGRAPHY

Kyu Lee, PhD, is a decision scientist and her research focuses on using disease simulation models to leverage scarce data in forecasting the future burden of disease and in evaluating the value of innovative health technology in many contexts including low- and middle-income countries. Her past research investigated the temporal trend in heavy drinking behaviors and features of Hepatitis C virus epidemiology observed in China. Her recent research project focuses on the impact of COVID-19 non-pharmaceutical interventions on population immunity and future flu epidemics and optimizing seasonal influenza vaccine strain selection to improve vaccine outcomes.

ABSTRACT

Antigenic similarity between vaccine viruses and circulating viruses is crucial for achieving high vaccine effectiveness against seasonal influenza. New non-egg-based vaccine production technologies could revise current vaccine formulation schedules. Using a multi-year multi-strain influenza transmission model, we aim to assess the potential benefit of delaying seasonal influenza vaccine virus selection decisions in the US and Australia.