EXPERTS WARY OF UPCOMING FLU SEASON
Carol Nwelue, MD, Baylor Scott & White Health

{**ON CAM**}
The U.S. should be prepared for an early start to flu season this year ... according to data released by the C-D-C this month.

{**TAKE VO**}
The good news? The data also suggests that this year’s flu shot is doing a good job keeping people out of the hospital. Experts generally recommend getting a flu shot by the end of October.

Internal medicine physician Carol Nwelue (uh-way-luh-way) says the medical field looks to the Australian flu season ... which happens before ours ... to predict what will happen in the U-S.

{**TAKE SOT**}
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TRT: 16
“Unfortunately, things aren’t looking good in Australia. They had a pretty heavy flu season, and about 76% of the patients that needed to be admitted were children, 9 years and under. So we’re really looking closely at our kids this flu season.”

{**ON CAM**}
While infection rates may be an ominous indicator for the U-S the data surrounding the flu shot is hopeful. The C-D-C says so far ... this year’s shot reduced overall hospitalizations by fifty percent ... and that jumped to seventy percent for children.