

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**}

Caron Nwelue, MD

Baylor Scott & White Health

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.