Emergency Rules on Healthcare Worker Flu Vaccinations

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) issued emergency rules (see pp. 17942-17953 of the October 5 Illinois Register) to implement, effective immediately, PA.100-1029 which eliminates a healthcare worker’s ability to refuse an influenza vaccination based on philosophical or moral reluctance. Under current law, a healthcare employee may only decline a flu shot based on one of the following factors:

- The vaccine is medically contraindicated;
- The vaccination is against the employee’s religious belief, or
- The employee has already been vaccinated

IDPH states the necessity of these emergency rules is to help combat influenza during the 2018-2019 season.