

From Around the Network

Judith R. Fischer, MSLS, IVUN Information Specialist, info@ventusers.org

International Ventilator Users Network's mission is to enhance the lives and independence of home mechanical ventilator users and polio survivors through education, advocacy, research and networking.

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Executive Director: Joan L. Headley, MS
info@ventusers.org

Editor: Gayla Hoffman
info@ventusers.org

Designer: Sheryl R. Rudy
webmaster@ventusers.org

Special thanks ...
 Judith R. Fischer, MSLS

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Product News

Global Ventilation Systems and Accessories Market 2011-2015 from TechNavio is an in-depth analysis of the industry that covers the American, European and Asian-Pacific ventilator equipment markets. Its analysts forecast growth at about 7.9 percent, as a result of increased use of ventilators for multiple purposes, in addition to a gradual shift in the ventilator replacement market. The report is licensed, beginning at \$1,500 for a single user. www.technavio.com/content/global-ventilation-systems-and-accessories-market-2011-2015

More on Flu Vaccine

Recently the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Families Fighting Flu and Family Voices held a live chat to discuss the need for influenza vaccine for children with underlying neurologic disorders. This chat resulted from an article, "Neurologic Disorders Among Pediatric Deaths Associated With the 2009 Pandemic Influenza" in *Pediatrics*. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/130/3/390.abstract>

Many of these children have additional risk factors for complications, such as pulmonary disorders that impair muscle or lung function that can lead to more problems with coughing, swallowing and/or clearing secretions from the airways. The article concludes, "Because of the potential for severe outcomes, children with underlying neurologic disorders should receive influenza vaccine, and be treated early and aggressively if they develop influenza-like illness."

The three strains in the vaccines for the 2012-2013 season are: H1N1 virus (same as used in the 2011-2012 vaccine), H3N2 vaccine and B vaccine. The vaccine manufacturers are licensed by the FDA to produce and distribute the vaccines in the USA. The following vaccines are available:

Fluria® (CSL)	for ages 5 years and older
Fluarix® (GlaxoSmithKline)	ages 3 years and older
FluLaval® (ID Biomedical)	ages 18 years and older
FluMist® (MedImmune)	ages 2-49
Fluvirin® (Novartis)	ages 4 years and older
Fluzone® (Sanofi Pasteur)	ages 6 months and older
Fluzone® High-Dose (Sanofi Pasteur)	ages 65 and older
Fluzone® Intradermal (Sanofi Pasteur)	ages 18-64

Support H.R. 6490

H.R. 6490, recently introduced by Rep. Tom Price (R-Georgia), himself an orthopedic surgeon, is an alternative to the competitive bidding process for home medical equipment (including bilevel ventilators). Also known as the Medicare DMEPOS (Durable Medical

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National Program in Chile Improves Quality of Life for Vent-Assisted Children

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care network and considers the home and family as the central axis.

The program aimed to improve life expectancy and health-related quality of life, along with lowering costs associated with prolonged mechanical ventilation in patients whose only possible scenario was being hospitalized in critical patient units. This program was made possible by pioneering professionals with the unconditional support of the state and currently, there are 360 patients living at home.

With experience in noninvasive mechanical ventilation, in 2008, the government started a program of home care for patients needing invasive mechanical ventilation, as in Diego's case.

For proper care and patient follow-up, the program has specialized professionals. Physical therapists, nurses and physicians regularly visit patients at home.

The program gave Diego a modern mechanical ventilator, all the necessary supplies and a personal assistant for 12 hours. The other 12 hours are responsibility of the parents who took the commitment and responsibility of caring for Diego, as they were trained in a transient specialized unit in chronic care before returning home.

This program, unprecedented in Latin America, has managed to maintain the unity of hundreds of families seeking a better life, despite dramatic circumstances. Quality of life has been given to children and their families at a lower cost for the state. Many of our children have been able to return to school, some are already attending college, and they have maintained their family and social networks, which was unthinkable prior to the existence of the program.

Today Diego is nine years old and is living at home. He uses a Philips Respironics Trilogy100, a Passy-Muir speaking valve and a Fisher & Paykel MR850 humidifier. A nongovernmental organization sends a teacher to his home to continue his formal education. He goes to the supermarket, to plazas, visits relatives, and he goes to the beach during summer. None of these activities would have been possible without the program.

Please visit our website www.avni.cl for more information. ▲

GUÍA PARA EL USO DE RESPIRADOR EN EL HOGAR

IVUN's *Home Ventilator Guide* has been updated and translated into Spanish. Go to www.ventusers.org/edu/HomeVentGuide.pdf.

En colaboración con los autores del documento original, la Red Internacional de Usuarios de Respiradores Mecánicos (International Ventilator Users Network, IVUN), un afiliado de Salud de Post Polio Internacional (Post-Polio Health International, PHI), el Centro de Recursos para la Parálisis de la Fundación Christopher y Dana Reeve ha creado una traducción al español para aumentar el alcance a usuarios a nivel nacional e internacional.

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Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies) Market Pricing Program Act of 2012, H.R. 6490 calls for a market pricing system through an auction instead of competitive bidding.

The competitive bidding process was designed to cut costs and save money but the process is flawed and could force many small and patient-oriented home health care companies out of the marketplace. The market pricing alternative is endorsed by the American Association of Home Care. If passed, the bill would take effect in July 2013. For a comparison of the two processes, go to www.aahomecare.org. There is also a link to easily enable contacting your congresspersons. ▲