

# MEMO

**TO:** local public health units, private healthcare providers and hospitals, Indian Health Services, pharmacies, and other immunization providers

**FROM:** Molly Sander, MPH  
Immunization Program Manager

**RE:** Week 2: H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Allocations

**DATE:** October 8, 2009

## **READ THIS MEMO IN ITS ENTIRITY**

By the end of this week, North Dakota is expecting to receive allocations for three different types of novel H1N1 influenza vaccine. After receiving an allocation, the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) then allocates and orders vaccine for healthcare providers.

### **H1N1 Allocations:**

**Sanofi pasteur H1N1 Fluzone® multi-dose vials will be allocated by the end of this week. H1N1 Fluzone® multi-dose vials are approved for use in people 6 months of age and older. These doses will be prioritized for children between the ages of 6 months and 18 years at this time.** Again, limited doses are available this week, but providers can expect to receive additional doses each week. **Children ages 6 months through 9 years will need two doses of H1N1 vaccine, separated by about four weeks.** Providers should notify parents of this at the time of the first dose being administered. **Providers should not save H1N1 influenza vaccine for second doses.** The NDDoH will use the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS) to recall children for their second dose. **Infants ages 6 through 35 months need a 0.25mL dose of H1N1 vaccine. People 3 and older need a 0.5mL dose.** Preservative free 0.25mL syringes are expected in the future for infants 6 through 35 months of age. Please see the information below about the ancillary supplies accompanying the multi-dose vials.

**Novartis H1N1 Fluvirin® preservative-free pre-filled syringes will be allocated by the end of this week. H1N1 Fluvirin® is approved for use in people ages four and older. These doses will be prioritized for pregnant women and distributed to OB-GYN providers first.** Pregnant women may be vaccinated at any time during their pregnancy.

**Additional doses of H1N1 Flumist® will be allocated to North Dakota by the end of this week. The NDDoH will continue to prioritize the first doses of H1N1 Flumist® for healthcare and emergency medical service workers. Long-term care workers will not be receiving the first allocations of H1N1 vaccine for healthcare workers due to the limited amounts available and the fact that the burden of H1N1 illness is less in the 65 and older population.** Long-term care workers can expect later shipments as more vaccine becomes available. The NDDoH encourages

providers to prioritize healthcare workers with direct patient contact first and then open vaccine up to all healthcare workers as vaccine becomes available. As a reminder, Flumist® is only approved for use in people ages 2 through 49 years. Pregnant women and people with chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes, liver, heart, lung, and kidney disease and asthma should not receive Flumist®. The injectable flu vaccine is preferred for people (including healthcare workers, and family members) in close contact with anyone who has a severely weakened immune system (requiring care in a protected environment, such as a bone marrow transplant unit). **People in close contact with those whose immune systems are less severely weakened (including those with HIV) may get Flumist®.** Other contraindications and precautions are available on the package insert.

People who have an anaphylactic allergy to eggs or other vaccine component should not receive any influenza vaccine. **H1N1 influenza vaccine may be administered at the same time as other vaccines, including seasonal influenza vaccine, with one exception, if administering live intranasal influenza vaccine (Flumist®) for both H1N1 and seasonal doses, then the doses may not be administered on the same day, and must be separated by at least four weeks.** If administering multiple vaccines on the same day, it is recommended to use separate injection sites.

Ancillary supplies for vaccination, including needles, syringes, alcohol pads, and sharps containers will be distributed with the vaccine as needed. There most likely will not be an adequate supply of sharps containers for each facility. Vaccination cards will also be distributed with the ancillary supplies.

**H1N1 allocations by provider are posted as available at [www.ndflu.com](http://www.ndflu.com).**

**Vaccine Information Statements (VIS):**

H1N1 Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) are available at [www.ndflu.com](http://www.ndflu.com). There are separate VISs for H1N1 Flumist® and H1N1 inactivated influenza vaccine. A VIS must be given with each dose administered. The NDDoH is supplying VISs at no charge. If providers need to administer doses prior to receiving VISs from the NDDoH, then they may be obtained online.

For more information about H1N1 vaccine distribution and allocations, please see the memo sent to providers on October 2. This memo is available at [www.ndflu.com](http://www.ndflu.com).

**Vaccine Administration Records (VAR):**

The VAR for H1N1 influenza vaccine will be the NDIIS scanning form. The scanning forms are being distributed by the NDDoH to providers. If providers need to administer doses prior to receiving the scanning forms, then they may be obtained online at [www.ndflu.com](http://www.ndflu.com). Providers should try to use NDDoH printed forms when available in order to ensure quality in the scanning data.

**Influenza Vaccination Clinic Locator:**

Providers should enter seasonal and H1N1 influenza vaccine clinics online at [www.ndflu.com/FluClinic.aspx](http://www.ndflu.com/FluClinic.aspx). The influenza vaccine clinic locator will allow the public to look for clinics in their county. There is now an option to choose whether seasonal and/or H1N1 influenza vaccine will be offered. In the comments field, providers should enter who

vaccine is being administered to (i.e., children, pregnant women, healthcare workers, general public, etc.). Entering clinics into the locator is necessary in order for the public to know where to go to be vaccinated.

**NDIIS Scanning:**

The scanning system for the NDIIS is expected to be available next week. A memo about the ability to scan and written instructions will be distributed next week. A second demonstration webcast will also be scheduled. H1N1 doses administered must be reported either by scanning or data entry to the NDIIS within seven days of administration.

Please feel free to contact the NDDoH Immunization Program with any questions or concerns at 701.328.3386 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.

cc: Dr. Terry Dwelle, State Health Officer  
Dr. Craig Lambrecht, Medical Director  
Kirby Kruger, Director  
Tim Wiedrich, Emergency Preparedness Director  
Abbi Pierce, MPH, Immunization Surveillance Coordinator  
Keith LoMurray, IIS Sentinel Site Coordinator  
Kim Weis, MPH, AFIX Coordinator  
Tatia Hardy, VFC Coordinator  
Teri Arso, Administrative Assistant