

# 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 10: H1N1 Influenza Vaccine

**DATE:** December 3, 2009

A H1N1 influenza vaccine transfer site has been created for providers. It is available at [www.ndflu.com/VaccineTransfer/](http://www.ndflu.com/VaccineTransfer/). The password was sent to providers via email. If your facility has excess H1N1 vaccine available for transfer, you can post your information and the number of doses available for transfer on the website. Providers in need of additional doses of H1N1 vaccine may contact the facilities that have posted H1N1 doses available for transfer. Once the doses are no longer available for transfer, the transferring provider should delete their posting.

**When doses are physically transferred, they should also be transferred in the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS).**

**Providers must maintain cold chain (35 – 46 degrees Fahrenheit) when transferring H1N1 vaccine. Please pay close attention to outside temperatures.**

## **Priority Groups:**

**If H1N1 vaccine supplies allow, providers should continue to vaccinate anyone recommended to receive H1N1 vaccine by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).** The ACIP recommends the following individuals be vaccinated with novel H1N1 vaccine (in no particular order):

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All people from 6 months through 24 years of age
- People ages 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

People not included in the above groups should not yet be vaccinated with novel H1N1 influenza vaccine. As a reminder, children ages 6 months – 9 years need two doses of H1N1 vaccine separated by at least 4 weeks. Vaccine should not be held for second doses.

**If your H1N1 vaccine supplies do not allow for vaccination of all or some of the above priority groups, then the NDDoH recommends prioritizing in the following order:**

1. Pregnant women, healthcare workers with direct patient contact (excluding long-term care), children ages 6 months – 18 years (including second doses for children ages 6 months – 9 years), and household contacts and caregivers of infants younger than 6 months.
2. People ages 19 – 64 with chronic medical conditions
3. Healthy people ages 19 – 24 and all other healthcare workers, including long-term care

**The NDDoH anticipates opening up H1N1 vaccination to healthy people ages 25 – 64 and people 65 and older on December 9. If local vaccine supplies do not allow for this, then providers may continue to vaccinate ACIP priority groups until more vaccine is available or demand has decreased.**

### **H1N1 Vaccine Shipments:**

The NDDoH will be driving H1N1 vaccine to provider offices this week on Tuesday and Thursday.

### **Weekly Estimates of H1N1 Vaccine (11/27/2009):**

The federal government has again revised the estimates of H1N1 vaccine that will be allocated to states. The estimates are posted at [www.ndflu.com](http://www.ndflu.com).

### **Weekly H1N1 Provider Updates:**

**H1N1 Provider Updates are Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. (Central Time).** Local public health units will meet with the NDDoH before hand at 9:30. All local public health units and hospitals will be connected Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. CT until 11 a.m. CT. If your facility does not want to be connected, please contact Dan Stephenson at [dstephenson@nd.gov](mailto:dstephenson@nd.gov).

Connection Options:

- Videoconference – Contact the closest local public health unit or hospital to check for availability and to make a reservation.
- Teleconference – Dial 866.888.3385.
- Webcast – To watch from your computer, follow these steps:
  - Step 1 – Prior to the first time viewing an NDDoH webcast, please check that your computer has the necessary software installed. Follow the link [www.ndhealth.gov/webcasthtml/preflight](http://www.ndhealth.gov/webcasthtml/preflight) for a test.
  - Step 2 – Follow the link [www.ndhealth.gov/WebcastHigh.aspx](http://www.ndhealth.gov/WebcastHigh.aspx) to view the webcast.

The video feed will start 30 minutes prior to the scheduled broadcast time. For technical support, please call 866.716.1274 (beginning at 8:30 a.m. CT). If you have any questions, please contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 701.328.1326 or [icliaison@nd.gov](mailto:icliaison@nd.gov).

Please contact the NDDoH Immunization Program with any questions at 701.328.2378 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.