

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 7: H1N1 Influenza Vaccine

DATE: November 12, 2009

READ THIS MEMO IN ITS ENTIRITY

Providers should make every attempt to use H1N1 vaccine as it is received. If your facility has extra H1N1 doses, please contact the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) Immunization Program immediately at 800.472.2180 or your local public health unit. H1N1 vaccine may be transferred amongst providers who have signed the H1N1 provider agreement.

H1N1 Allocations:

The following allocations describe how the NDDoH is allocating vaccine to providers based on pre-booking (registration). **If necessary, providers may choose to use any of the below vaccine types (except the 0.25mL Fluzone® syringes) on either: healthcare workers, pregnant women, children ages 6 months – 18 years, and/or household contacts or caregivers of infants younger than six months of age.** Providers should follow age indications (when possible) and contraindications for the various vaccine types. The NDDoH is not specifically allocating doses for healthcare workers or pregnant women this week, but providers may continue to vaccinate these priority groups with any H1N1 doses received from the state.

- Sanofi pasteur H1N1 Fluzone® multi-dose vials will be allocated this week for children ages 6 months through 18 years.
 - Children ages 6 months through 9 years will need two doses, separated by about 4 weeks.
- Novartis H1N1 Fluvirin® pre-filled syringes will be allocated for household contacts or caregivers of infants younger than six months (parents, siblings, childcare providers, etc.).
 - Fluvirin® is licensed for people ages 4 and older
- H1N1 Flumist® will be allocated to providers for administration to healthy children ages 2 through 18 years. Children ages 2 through 9 years will need two doses of H1N1 Flumist®, separated by four weeks.
 - As a reminder seasonal Flumist® and H1N1 Flumist® cannot be administered on the same day.
- Sanofi pasteur H1N1 Fluzone® 0.25mL pre-filled syringes will be allocated to providers for infants ages 6 through 35 months.

- Novartis H1N1 Fluvirin® multi-dose vials will be allocated for children ages 6 months through 18 years.
 - Fluvirin® is licensed for people ages 4 and older
- CSL Afluria® pre-filled syringes will be allocated for household contacts or caregivers of infants younger than six months of age (parents, siblings, childcare providers, etc.).
 - Afluria® is licensed for people ages 18 and older.
- CSL Afluria® multi-dose vials will be allocated for household contacts or caregivers of infants younger than six months of age (parents, siblings, childcare providers, etc.).
 - Afluria® is licensed for people ages 18 and older.

The NDDoH does not recommend vaccinating additional priority groups at this time. It is the provider's responsibility to decide how many healthcare workers vs. children vs. pregnant women vs. close contacts to infants younger than six months to vaccinate. Providers may choose to prioritize children (by age or chronic medical condition) for vaccination if necessary based on the availability of vaccine locally. If vaccine supplies are limited, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that children ages 6 months through 4 years and children 5 through 18 years of age with a chronic medical condition be the highest priority for vaccination.

H1N1 allocations by provider and/or county are posted as available at www.ndflu.com.

The federal government revised estimates for H1N1 vaccine available to states. Please see the attached document for more information.

H1N1 Vaccine Shipping:

The NDDoH will continue to drive vaccine to provider offices twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The NDDoH may also drive vaccine on Wednesdays and Fridays, if some deliveries are too large to fit into one delivery. This week's vaccine deliveries will be for the November 4th and 6th allocations. **The NDDoH will be closed on Wednesday, November 11th for Veteran's Day.** McKesson is not supposed to ship H1N1 vaccine that day, but the NDDoH encourages providers who will be closed that day to check and see if any shipments come in, just in case. **This week, the NDDoH will be driving vaccine to providers' offices on Tuesday and Friday (not Thursday).**

CDC Webinar: Influenza Vaccine Administration, Storage, and Handling:

CDC will host a webinar on Friday, November 13th at 11:00 a.m. (CT) about influenza vaccine administration, storage, and handling. The webinar is available to all providers and will be archived for those who are unable to participate live. Information is available below:

Log-in Access:

Please log in early to avoid missing any of the conference.

To participate, dial in for audio and go to the website below for visuals.

Audio Bridge Line: 888-322-1985
Pass code: 261-2353

Please note, there is a limited number of audio bridge lines for the webinar, so if possible, please plan to participate as a group at your location.

Visuals: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join/>
Conference number: PW2126133
Pass code: 2612353

Participants can join the event directly at:
<https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW2126133&p=2612353&t=c>

To check your browser for compatibility: <http://www.mymeetings.com/updates/net-systemcheck.php?ver=2003>

Additional topics to be discussed include the proper techniques to handle needles and syringes provided in the 2009 H1N1 ancillary supply kits.

Reminders for Second Doses:

Children ages 6 months – 9 years need two doses of H1N1 vaccine at least four weeks apart. The NDDoH intends to use North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS) data to remind parents of their child's second dose. The NDDoH has contracted with an outside agency to provide telephone reminders. Until the scanned doses are available in the NDIIS, the NDDoH will be unable to provide this reminder service. The NDDoH will include information about the need for second doses in future news releases.

Providers are encouraged to notify parents at the time of the first dose that their child will need to return for a second dose in at least four weeks. Parents should not wait to receive a reminder for their child to be vaccinated.

Weekly H1N1 Provider Updates:

There will not be a H1N1 Provider Update on Friday, November 13th. H1N1 Provider Updates are now moving to Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. (Central Time). Local public health units will meet with the NDDoH before hand at 9:30. The first Wednesday update will be on November 18th. These updates will not be limited to vaccine information and will also include an overall provider update about the H1N1 response, including, but not limited to:

- Disease activity
- State Medical Cache, including N95 and surgical masks supplies and policies
- Antiviral supplies and policies
- Vaccine availability
- Public information
- Reporting information into Health Care Standard
- Regional Reports

The NDDoH will look for updates from health care institutions about clinical influenza activity, facility stress and facility needs, as well as take questions from participants. 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.

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 for a test.
 - Step 2 – Follow the link 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.

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