



A L E R T : P a n d e m i c H 1 N 1 I n f l u e n z a V a c c i n e : R e g i s t e r N o w

DATE: August 31, 2009

TO: All Interested Parties, Santa Clara County

FROM: Martin Fenstersheib, MD, MPH
Health Officer

This fax contains 2 pages.

Please copy and distribute to
ALL physicians at your location.

In order to immunize those at highest risk for H1N1 in the fastest and safest possible way, we will be asking our current providers to assist in this upcoming vaccine campaign.

To begin the process, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has announced that pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine will be available through an online registration process. Any provider or agency that gives vaccine is encouraged to register to receive and administer the vaccine. (Note: pre-registration and ordering do not guarantee receipt of vaccine.) Registration will begin September 1, 2009 on the CDPH-sponsored website www.CalPanFlu.org. Please see the attached flyer from CalPanFlu.org for details.

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department (SCCPHD) particularly wants to encourage obstetricians, pediatricians, and others who care for patients in high-risk groups to register and to administer vaccine to their patients. High-risk groups include:

- Children and young adults ages 6 months to 24 years
- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months
- Persons between 25 and 64 with chronic respiratory and cardiac conditions or who are immunocompromised
- Health Care Workers

SCCPHD will provide additional information about priority groups for vaccination before vaccine is distributed in the fall.

REMINDER: Seasonal flu vaccine is now available. Providers should begin vaccinating their patients for seasonal flu as soon as possible.



Pandemic Influenza H1N1 Vaccine is coming soon!

The California Department of Public Health and California's local health departments are calling all parties interested in providing this vaccine...

- Clinics, public and private
- Community Health Centers
- Community vaccinators
- Employee health programs
- Health plans
- Hospitals
- Pharmacies, chain and independent
- Physicians
- Universities and Community Colleges
- Other vaccinators

Starting by September 1, 2009, go to www.CalPanFlu.org.

1. Pre-register for vaccine

Sign up to receive H1N1 vaccine as it becomes available.

Pre-registration:

- ▶ is not a binding commitment to provide vaccine
- ▶ can *only* be done by (or in conjunction with) a physician licensed to practice medicine in California
- ▶ lets California Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers use their PIN number for fast-track identification

2. Order vaccine

Vaccine is in production and currently expected to first be available by mid-October.

Vaccine and basic supplies will be delivered at **no cost to you**. Providers may bill public and private insurers for vaccine administration fees.

- ▶ **HOW:** Pre-register and order early to minimize delays. (*Note: Pre-registration and ordering do not guarantee receipt of vaccine*)
- ▶ **WHEN:** Timing and amount of vaccine deliveries will depend on available inventory. First deliveries are expected by mid-October or later.
- ▶ **WHO:** Initial orders will go to vaccinators serving at-risk population groups. Other requests will be filled in turn, as supply permits.

3. Receive vaccine information and updates

- ▶ vaccine availability
- ▶ storage and handling
- ▶ training on vaccination
- ▶ the pandemic in California

4. Report your H1N1 vaccine usage

- ▶ Instructions are available to complete a simple weekly report on H1N1 vaccine at your medical practice

Additional information will soon be available at www.CalPanFlu.org.

Thank you for your interest in protecting California from pandemic influenza!