

Oklahoma H1N1 Vaccination Update
Oklahoma State Department of Health
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- ❑ H1N1 vaccination will be voluntary. Vaccine will be administered only to eligible persons who want to reduce their risk of H1N1 influenza exposure.
- ❑ Five manufacturers are producing novel H1N1 vaccine for the United States. It is anticipated that this vaccine may be available for use by mid-October.
- ❑ The novel H1N1 influenza vaccine production is similar to seasonal influenza vaccine production. Both seasonal and H1N1 vaccine are produced according to industry standards approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- ❑ Information about the safety and effectiveness of novel H1N1 vaccine will be made available to the public to help them make informed decisions about vaccination.
- ❑ At this time, the number of H1N1 doses that will be available for public use is unknown. The amount of vaccine produced will depend on the production process and results of the H1N1 vaccine trials.
 - o For planning purposes, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that between 40-160 million doses could be available nationally.
 - o The planning estimates for the number of doses that Oklahoma could receive are between 467,000 – 1,868,000 doses.
 - o It is anticipated that two doses of H1N1 vaccine will be needed to provide the best immune system response.
- ❑ The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended that initial vaccination efforts focus on five key populations:
 - o Pregnant women
 - o People who live with or care for children younger than six months of age
 - o Persons 6 months through 24 years of age
 - o Persons aged 25-64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza
 - o Health care and emergency services personnel
- ❑ An estimated 159 million U.S. citizens and 2 million Oklahomans are included in one of the ACIP priority groups.
- ❑ Availability and demand for vaccine can be unpredictable. It is likely that initial amounts of vaccine will not be adequate to meet demands. Moreover, if two doses are needed, sub-prioritization may be necessary. The ACIP has recommended the following persons be prioritized if vaccine is available in insufficient amounts:
 - o Pregnant women
 - o People who live with or care for children younger than six months of age
 - o Children 6 months through 4 years of age
 - o Children 5 through 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions
 - o Healthcare and emergency services personnel with direct patient contact
- ❑ Once the demand for vaccine for the prioritized groups have been met, the ACIP recommends that vaccination begin for persons aged 25 through 64 years.
- ❑ Current studies indicate that the risk for infection among persons aged 65 or older is less than the risk for younger age groups. Many older adults seem to already have some existing immunity to the novel H1N1 virus. However, as vaccine supply and demand for vaccine among younger age groups is being met, programs and providers should also offer vaccine to persons 65 years and older.

