



H1N1 Influenza Update September 8, 2009

Summary

- As of 9/8/09, 9,079 total novel H1N1 influenza hospitalizations and 593 total deaths have been reported to the CDC by state and local public health departments in the United States. 670 hospitalizations and 78 deaths have been reported in Florida.
- **Osceola County update:** As of 9/8/09, 5 hospitalized cases of pandemic H1N1 influenza and 1 fatality have been reported in Osceola county residents.
- Some of the local activities led by our county health department include:
 - Engaging in enhanced healthcare provider and partner communication so they have current H1N1 Swine Flu guidance and recommendations for patient management and timely and accurate disease reporting.
 - Actively investigating H1N1 Swine Flu disease outbreaks in our community.
 - Working with local school officials to make sure appropriate plans are in place to effectively manage H1N1 Swine Flu in schools.
 - Developing plans with community partners for implementing a mass vaccination campaign.
 - Determining resources requirements and developing systems to maintain identified needs.
 - Ensuring internal plans are in place to maintain continuity of essential services.
- **In the Health care setting:** Institute of Medicine (IOM) committee recommends fit-tested N-95 respirators for workers in close contact with patients with novel H1N1 infection or influenza-like illnesses. The committee endorses the current CDC guidelines but also recommends further research to resolve the unanswered questions on influenza transmission (in particular the potential contribution of airborne transmission) and effectiveness of personal respiratory protection in clinical settings. See <http://www.iom.edu/CMS/3740/71769/72967.aspx> for IOM report and http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidelines_infection_control.htm for CDC infection control guidance for novel H1N1 in healthcare settings.
- **CDC Guidance for child care programs/providers for responding to influenza in the 2009-2010 season.** Strategies for now include getting vaccinated against influenza, staying home when sick (until at least 24 hours after fever resolves without use of fever-reducing medications), conducting daily health checks, encouraging hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette at all times, and performing routine environmental cleaning. See http://www.flu.gov/professional/school/childcare_guidance.pdf.
- **Pandemic influenza H1N1 vaccine update:**
 - **Florida SHOTS** - Pre registration for administering H1N1 vaccine is now available! Organizations with existing Florida SHOTS access should log in to Florida SHOTS and access the "Pre-registration" link located in the new "H1N1" section of the system menu.
 - New organizations that do not have Florida SHOTS access and have not previously attempted to enroll with SHOTS should pre-register for H1N1 by following the links available through the main Florida SHOTS web site at <https://www.flshots.com/flshots/signin.csp>
 - Please contact the Florida SHOTS helpdesk at 877-888-7468 if you have any questions about this this pre-registration process. Full registration, including electronically signing the Federal agreement form, will be available soon.
 - The majority of vaccine will be in multi-dose vials, the remainder in single dose syringes or nasal sprayers. The aim is to have enough vaccine in single dose syringes (i.e. preservative free) for young children and pregnant women.
 - Providers may charge patients an administrative fee if they are insured as well as the uninsured. The fee cannot exceed the regional Medicare vaccine administration fee (between \$ 10 to \$ 15, TBD). There will be no administration fee for vaccination in public-health organized large scale vaccination clinics.
 - HHS will provide needles, syringes, sharps containers and alcohol swabs.
 - CDC does not expect that there will be a shortage of novel H1N1 vaccine, but flu vaccine availability and demand can be unpredictable and there is some possibility that initially, the vaccine will be available in limited quantities.

