



Middlesex County Public Health Department

# H1N1 VACCINATION IMPLICATIONS

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## H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE CLINICAL TRIALS

- Currently the vaccines are in clinical trials to:
  - Determine the number of doses required for protection. (Currently information indicates that 2 doses is required at least 21 days apart to children under 10 years of age.)
  - Ability to administer seasonal and H1N1 at the same time.

## **H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE CLINICAL TRIALS (CONT.)**

- The vaccine will be distributed according to the plan.
- At this time some vaccine is expected to begin distribution in the next week, and will be ongoing as available.
- The vaccine will not be available for the entire population immediately so they are developing guidelines prioritizing populations at higher risk.

## **H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE DISTRIBUTION**

- Novel H1N1 vaccine is being distributed by Federal agencies and will be made available to State, County and local jurisdictions at no cost.
- Syringes, needles, sharps containers and gauze will also be supplied with the vaccine.

## **DISTRIBUTION AND STANDING ORDERS**

- All vaccination clinics may need to procure the services of a physician to sign the standing orders for administration
- Professionals who will administer the vaccine will be supplied with a 'standing order template'.
- This template will provide the physician writing the order with guidance on what should be included in the standing order.

## **VACCINATION PLAN**

- The Federal government has identified school age children as a first tier target group.
- Since the vaccine will have limited distribution, the plan has suggested that vaccine be administered in the school setting to assure that children have equal access to care.

## VACCINATION PLAN (CONT)

- Since the school nurse is most familiar with the school population, the plan suggests that the school nurse, with assistance, provide the vaccine to students at the school setting.

## VACCINATION PLAN (CONT)

- The communication plan will include:
  - MCPHD
  - 5 independent health departments
  - Municipal Office of Emergency Management
  - School districts
- All Public Health Departments will make staff available to participate in the school based clinic.
- Help can also be requested from the local OEM office.

## **VACCINATION PLAN (CONT)**

School Districts that are participating need to supply:

- Alcohol, gloves and bandages
- Emergency medication and equipment as indicated
- Medical waste disposal

## **VACCINATION PLAN (CONT)**

- Use of surgical masks for symptomatic persons
- Use of N-95 for staff protection

## VACCINE STORAGE

- Influenza vaccines require storage temperatures between 35° and 46°F (2° and 8°C) in the refrigerator compartment of a household- or commercial-style refrigerator-freezer 13 cu ft. unit

## VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

What is needed?

- Consent form
- Vaccine information sheet for parent review

## VACCINE ADMINISTRATION (CONT)

School nurse will assure:

- Distribution of forms and information
- Notification if a second dose of vaccine is needed
- Data entry into State immunization registry

## WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS??

- Inactivated influenza vaccine in a multi-dose vial contains a preservative called thimerosal, which contains mercury.
- A child with a known severe (life-threatening) **allergy** to any vaccine component should not get a vaccine containing that component. **Severe allergy to eggs is a contraindication.**
- Normal medical concerns associated with vaccines.

## **WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS?? (CONT)**

- **Side Effects:**
  - **Serious problems from influenza vaccine are very rare. The viruses in inactivated influenza vaccine have been killed, so you cannot get influenza from the vaccine.**
  - **Mild problems typically associated with vaccines.**

## **VACCINATION ADMINISTRATION REFRESHER COURSE**

- **Vaccination Administration refresher courses will be held to assure that everyone needing refresher course has access to one.**
- **Registration online at the New Jersey Learning Management Network:**
  - <https://njlmn.rutgers.edu>