



FROM: Communicable Disease Prevention Unit
San Francisco Department of Public Health

DATE: October 21, 2009

Please Read and Post

H1N1 SWINE FLU VACCINE UPDATE

~ Continue to check sfcdcp.org/flu for ongoing updates ~

- **Thimerosal Exemption (H1N1 Vaccine) for Pregnant Women & Children Under 3 Years Old**
 - The Governor and the California Secretary of Health and Human Services have granted an exemption so that the H1N1 injectable vaccine (which contains the preservative thimerosal) can be administered to pregnant women and children under 3 years old, October 12, 2009 through November 30, 2009.
 - To help respond to questions or concerns: there is no medical evidence that thimerosal preservative in the amount present in a standard flu vaccine from a vial constitutes any health risk to young children or pregnant women.
 - This exemption pertains to California Health and Safety Code Section 124172 subdivision (a) for influenza A (H1N1) 2009 monovalent influenza vaccine.
- **Deliveries of vaccine to SF Dept. of Public Health (SFDPH) and other SF Providers may begin the week of Oct. 26th.**
 - Orders are filled by McKesson, based on quantity of vaccine that is ready for distribution. SFDPH is expected to receive vaccine first. We will share information on shipments as soon as it is available.
 - 200,000 doses of Injectable H1N1 vaccine were shipped last week to Kaiser sites in California. This means that Kaiser San Francisco has received a small quantity that may be available to Kaiser members only.
- **311 is set up to handle general information calls from the public**
 - If you would like to take advantage of this service, you can refer patients to 311 for questions such as:
 - When will the vaccine be available
 - Who is eligible for it
 - Who should get it
- **Seasonal Flu vaccines are temporarily in short supply all over the United States.**
 - We expect San Francisco clinicians to be re-supplied with Seasonal Flu vaccine by mid to late November. Those who are vaccinated during the middle or end of November will still have time for sufficient protection, as Seasonal Flu cases in San Francisco tend to rise in late December and early January.



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
101 Grove Street Room 408 San Francisco CA 94102
Tel:415.554.2830 Fax 415.554.2579 www.sfcdcp.org