



FROM: Immunization Program

San Francisco Department of Public Health
 COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
 101 Grove Street Room 408 San Francisco CA 94102
 Tel: 415.554.2830 Fax 415.554.2579

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*** Please Share ***

Order Flu Vaccine Now for 2009-2010 Season

Pre-booking for influenza vaccine has already begun. Check with your regular distributor to reserve sufficient supply and appropriate vaccine for your patient population. For a current list of distributors, visit www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/

Expanded influenza recommendations for pediatric population

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has recommended flu vaccine for **all** children from 6 months to 18 years of age for the 2009-10 flu season. We urge you to consider this recommendation in your initial and subsequent orders of influenza vaccine for 09-10.

Hospitals and health care providers should consider recent California laws when ordering influenza vaccine for the 09-10 influenza season, including:

For staff at general acute care hospitals:

1. Effective October 1 2008, California Health and Safety (H&S) Code Section 20392.9 requires general acute care hospitals to offer influenza and pneumococcal immunizations to their inpatients aged 65 years or older prior to discharge.
2. H&S Code Section 1288.7 requires general acute care hospitals to offer free influenza vaccinations to its employees onsite each year.

For everybody providing influenza vaccine:

3. H&S Code Section 124172 forbids the administration of mercury-containing vaccines to persons who are pregnant or younger than 3 years old. These persons should receive thimerosal-free vaccine.

The following information is provided to assist you in complying with the law on mercury in vaccines when ordering influenza vaccine.

- A) The following influenza vaccine meets the State law’s mercury limit and is currently licensed for use in children younger than 3 years old:

Manufacturer	Trade Name	Packaged as
MedImmune Inc	FluMist® (Healthy Persons 2-49 years of age)	prefilled 0.2 mL unit dose nasal sprayer
Sanofi Pastuer Inc	Fluzone® No Preservative: Pediatric Dose (Children 6-35 months of age)	prefilled 0.25 mL unit dose syringes

- B) The following influenza vaccines meet the State law’s mercury limit and may be given to pregnant women:

Manufacturer	Trade Name	Packaged as
CSL Limited	Afluria® (no preservative)	prefilled 0.5 mL unit dose syringes
GlaxoSmithKline	Fluarix® (no preservative)	prefilled 0.5 mL unit dose syringes
Novartis	Fluvirin® Preservative-free	prefilled 0.5 mL unit dose syringes
Sanofi Pastuer Inc	Fluzone® No Preservative	0.5 mL unit dose vial
Sanofi Pastuer Inc	Fluzone® No Preservative	prefilled 0.5 mL unit dose syringes

For those with 08-09 vaccine remaining, pediatric patients also benefit from a “priming” dose of flu vaccine through June 30. Leave us a message at **415-554-2681** with questions about **any** of this information and we will return your call. Thank you.