



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### **PLEASE COPY THIS FOR ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN YOUR PRACTICE**

TO: Registered Providers of H1N1 Vaccine

FROM: Vincent Sacco, MS *VAS*                      Matthew Cartter, MD, MPH *M. Cartter*  
Immunization Program Manager              State Epidemiologist

DATE: November 16, 2009

SUBJECT: Vaccine Priority Groups and Instructions for use of H1N1 vaccine in inventory

**The H1N1 vaccine priority groups are re-evaluated and updated as we receive more H1N1 vaccine. For the most updated priority group list, please visit the CT Flu Watch web site at [www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch](http://www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch). A list of medical conditions that confer a higher risk for influenza-related complications can be found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/highrisk.htm>.**

Due to the continued limited supply of H1N1 vaccine, the Connecticut Department of Public Health is recommending that the H1N1 vaccine be given to those individuals most-at-risk. The Department continues to recommend that public and private providers focus vaccination efforts on the following subset of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) target groups:

- Pregnant women
- Persons who live with or provide care for infants age 6 months or younger (examples: parents, siblings, daycare providers)
- Health care and emergency medical services personnel who have direct contact with patients or infectious material
- Children age 6 months - 6 years
- Children and adolescents age 7-24 years who have chronic medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications

**Beginning November 19th, we are expanding the targeted sub-groups to include all persons aged 25-64 years who have underlying medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications. Not all providers will have the flexibility to expand their vaccination efforts on November 19<sup>th</sup>. If a provider's vaccine supply is adequate to begin vaccinating this expanded priority group, we are advising you to do so.**

The Department of Public Health is very appreciative of all the efforts being made by public and private providers in working with the limitations of this vaccination campaign. We are now about 4 weeks into the second pandemic wave. In keeping with the need to assure that H1N1 vaccine is being administered in a timely manner, the Department is asking all providers with vaccine in their inventory to expedite their vaccination administration efforts. During the week of November 30<sup>th</sup>, the Department will conduct a public and private provider vaccine inventory and redistribute H1N1 vaccine as needed.

If you anticipate that you will have difficulty administering the vaccine you have by that date, please let us know now and we will redistribute the excess vaccine immediately.

As a CDC requirement for receiving this vaccine, we are reminding you to report the number of doses administered, age groups to which the doses were administered and current doses on hand EACH week. This information must be submitted weekly whether you are ordering additional vaccine or not. These aggregate numbers should be reported to the Immunization Program on the **H1N1 Vaccine Doses Administered Data Form (attached)** by noon on Thursday of every week. This weekly report will allow us to monitor how much of the vaccine is being administered, which providers are using the vaccine most efficiently, and will allow us to redistribute vaccine in the event you are not able to use your entire allotment.

Thank you once again for all your efforts to date. If you have any questions about the information in this memo, please contact the Immunization Program at (860) 509-7929.

Attachments: Doses Administered form

