



# CRITICAL NOTICE

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| Route to:   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office Manager           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Staff            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Staff            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunization Coordinator |

An Immunization Update from the Idaho Immunization Program (IIP)

## Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Supply Update

The IIP received notice today that the delivery of the seasonal flu vaccine, Fluzone, produced by sanofi pasteur, will be delayed. Sanofi notified the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that due to the production and distribution challenges of producing two flu vaccines (seasonal & H1N1), they are unable to deliver seasonal flu vaccine according to their original schedule. Sanofi has indicated that they will make all reasonable efforts to complete shipments by the end of November.

Production and distribution of seasonal influenza vaccine is never guaranteed. Each spring the IIP requests from CDC, the number of seasonal flu doses needed based upon population, estimated vaccine uptake, and available funding. The final number of doses made available to the IIP is dependent upon the contracts CDC secures with the vaccine manufacturers as well as vaccine supply. Seasonal flu vaccine is not available at one time, but rather is made available in waves over several months.

For the 2009-2010 influenza season, the IIP requested fewer doses as Idaho was transitioning to a VFC-only state and would not be able to supply flu vaccine for all children. As a result, **the flu vaccine supply from the IIP will be less than what is needed to vaccinate all children.** The IIP cannot purchase additional influenza vaccine at this time as there is no additional vaccine available for purchase.

October 7, 2009

## Delayed Vaccine Shipments

From August 26<sup>th</sup>-September 18<sup>th</sup> the IIP experienced a significant glitch in the CDC-supplied software system used to place orders. This glitch resulted in orders not being filled and shipped. At this time the problem has been corrected and orders should be shipping on schedule. Please note that there are currently no shortages of vaccines supplied by the IIP. The delay in getting vaccines into offices was a result of the software glitch.

Please continue to allow at least 2-3 weeks for vaccine orders to ship.

## Vaccine Availability

The IIP has begun to increase provider orders to allow for a 6-8 week vaccine supply in each provider's office, with the exception of Hib and Varicella vaccines.

- Hib vaccine continues to be allocated to the state on a monthly basis.
- Varicella orders will potentially be reduced or delayed throughout October due to a CDC contract problem.