



IMPORTANT NOTICE

FLU EDITION

An Immunization Update from the Idaho Immunization Program (IIP)

2009-2010 Influenza Recommendations

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) released the 2009-2010 recommendations, "Prevention and Control of Influenza" on July 31, 2009. The major changes and updates are summarized below.

- The 2009-10 trivalent influenza vaccine virus strains:
 - A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus
 - A/Brisbane/10/2007 (H3N2)-like virus
 - B/Brisbane 60/2008-like antigens

Changes/Updates:

- Annual vaccination of all children aged 6 months-18 years should begin as soon as the 2009-10 influenza vaccine is available. Annual vaccination of all children aged 6 months – 4 years (59 months) and older children with conditions that place them at increased risk for complication from influenza should continue to be a primary focus of vaccination efforts as providers and programs transition to routinely vaccinating all children.
- Most seasonal influenza A (H1N1) virus strains tested from the United States and other countries are now resistant to oseltamivir. Recommendations for influenza diagnosis and antiviral use will be published later in 2009. CDC issued interim recommendations for antiviral treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza in December 2008, and these should be consulted for guidance pending recommendations from the ACIP.

Who is annual vaccination recommended for?

As vaccine supplies allow, provide influenza vaccine to all persons who want to reduce the risk of becoming ill with influenza or of transmitting it to others. Place particular emphasis on the following groups:

- Children and adolescents age 6 months through 18 years
- Persons age 50 years or older
- Children and adolescents (age 6 months through 18 years) receiving long-term aspirin therapy who therefore might be at risk for Reye syndrome after influenza virus infection
- Women who will be pregnant during the influenza season
- Adults, adolescents, and children who have chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except hypertension), renal, hepatic, hematological or metabolic disorders (including diabetes mellitus), immunosuppression (including immunosuppression caused by medications or by human immunodeficiency virus), or any condition (e.g., cognitive dysfunction, spinal cord injuries, seizure disorders, or other neuromuscular disorders) that can compromise respiratory function or the handling of respiratory secretions or that can increase the risk for aspiration
- Residents of long-term care and other chronic-care facilities
- Health-care personnel
- Household contacts (including children) and caregivers of, children under 5 years of age (with particular emphasis on contacts of children 6 months of age and younger), adults 50 years of age and older, and persons with medical conditions that put them at higher risk for severe complications from influenza.

• When can I order and when can I vaccinate?

Begin ordering flu vaccine now with your regular vaccine orders using the regular vaccine order form (available on <http://www.immunizeidaho.com>). As the influenza vaccine is allotted to the IIP, the vaccine will be distributed to providers. If a brand or presentation inventory is exhausted another brand will be automatically substituted. **Flu vaccine will ship separately from other vaccines.**

September 1, 2009



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Continue to use and order flu vaccine throughout the flu season. To avoid missed opportunities, offer flu vaccination during routine health-care visits or during hospitalizations. Continue vaccinating throughout the flu season (through March). **Do not schedule a flu clinic until you have the vaccine.**

Vaccination of children 6 months through 8 years of age

Children age 6 months through 8 years who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time this year need two doses separated by at least 4 weeks. Children who received influenza vaccine for the first time in the immediate previous season and only received one dose will need two doses in the current season. For children age 6 months through 8 years who received fewer than two doses in a season prior to 2007-2008 only one dose is needed this year.

| Children 6 months through 8 years | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Doses Needed | |
| 1 st season being vaccinated | 2 doses separated by at least 4 weeks |
| Received vaccine for the first time last season and only received 1 dose | 2 doses separated by at least 4 weeks |
| Received fewer than 2 doses in a season prior to 2007-2008 | 1 dose |
| Received 2 doses last year | 1 dose |

Key influenza messages for health-care workers

- Vaccinating health-care workers protects them from getting sick and prevents them from giving influenza to their patients, their families, and other contacts.
- **Unvaccinated health-care workers spread influenza to persons who are the most vulnerable to serious complications and death.**
- All health-care personnel, as well as those in training for health-care professions, should be vaccinated annually against influenza.
- Vaccination of health-care professionals has been associated with reduced work absenteeism and with fewer deaths among nursing home patients and elderly hospitalized patients.

Vaccine formulations

Vaccine supply: Production of influenza vaccine for the United States for the 2009-2010 season is projected to be as many as 119 million doses.

| Brand Name | Manufacturer | Age Indication |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Fluzone (syringes) Thimerosal free | Sanofi Pasteur | 6 months – 35 months |
| Fluzone (vials & syringes) Thimerosal free | Sanofi Pasteur | 3 years of age and older |
| Fluzone (10 dose vials) | Sanofi Pasteur | 6 months – 18 years |
| Fluvirin (10 dose Vials & 10 dose Preservative free syringes, syringes) | Novartis Vaccine | 4 years of age and older |
| FluMist Intranasal spray | MedImmune | 2 years – 49 years of age |

Novel H1N1 Vaccine

The Department of Health & Welfare is continuing to work with the Federal government in determining who will be administering Novel H1N1 vaccine. If your office is interested in administering the H1N1 vaccine or if you have questions related to H1N1 vaccine administration, recommendation, or distribution, please submit an email to IIPH1N1Providers@dhw.idaho.gov.

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