



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

JANET OLSZEWSKI
DIRECTOR

October 30, 2009

Dear Health Officers and Medical Directors:

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) wants to remind all local health departments that they must follow the recommended 2009 H1N1 vaccination guidelines set forth by the ACIP for targeted priority groups. It is essential that you distribute the vaccine equitably to the registered providers who serve those priority groups. At this time, you should not expand your vaccination program to the general public and beyond the established priority groups even if you have met the needs of those groups. The statewide vaccine shortage may make it necessary to reallocate vaccine supplies to those jurisdictions who have not reached that point in their vaccination program.

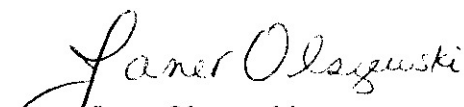
The responsible utilization of vaccine within the priority groups is very important. MDCH has been receiving numerous calls regarding those agencies that have made decisions to go outside of the priority groups. We encourage you to review closely those decisions. Those who *should not* receive the vaccine at this time of limited supply are healthy adults (>24 years of age with no underlying medical conditions). For example, this would include personnel representing critical infrastructure, public safety, and family members of targeted priority groups.

It is critical that you inform the public in your jurisdiction *where* your H1N1 influenza vaccination clinics will be held, *who* the priority groups are and *why* they are being targeted due to limited vaccine availability. This is the time to be transparent with the public using all the messaging resources you have available including updated web sites. We ask you to remind members of the public who want to receive this vaccine to please be patient as the CDC vaccination program expands and more vaccine becomes available.

Up-to-date information for 2009 H1N1 influenza including detailed information on the ACIP guidelines, vaccination, antiviral treatment recommendations, and Michigan's 2009 H1N1 provider program can be found at www.michigan.gov/flu.

Thank you for all you do to protect and care for Michigan's most vulnerable residents. We are learning just as you are and we appreciate your feedback. Please don't hesitate to contact us at swineflu@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,


Janet Olszewski
Director

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