

BLASTFAX

H1N1 Vaccine Distribution and Allocations

On September 30, 2009 54,800 doses of MedImmune's live, activated intranasal spray (H1N1 FluMist[®]) were entered for delivery to Public Health clinics. Vaccine allocation was based on a percentage of children aged two through four years in Georgia counties. Vaccine shipments were rounded to the nearest 100, so counties allocated less than 50 doses did not receive shipments. Local public health sites may reallocate vaccine to these clinics.

On October 5, 2009, 50,600 doses of H1N1 FluMist[®] were entered for delivery to an additional 82 sites, which were primarily private providers who had submitted their signed Provider Agreement to the Georgia Immunization Program. This distribution was to providers who were enrolled in the Vaccines for Children Program since their shipping information was already in the Program's automated system. Information on non-VFC providers is being loaded into the system now. Vaccine will be distributed to those sites as additional vaccine becomes available.

Some important points:

- This vaccine should be targeted to healthy children aged 2-4.
- Children two through 9 years of age will need two doses of H1N1 vaccine. FluMist[®] doses are to be separated by four weeks. The Immunization Program is developing an H1N1 one-pager to include all formulations and will get it out shortly.
- This vaccine needs to be refrigerated at 2-8°C (35-46°F). DO NOT FREEZE.
- This vaccine cannot be used to immunize pregnant women or those with health factors that put them at increased risk for respiratory problems.
- Vaccine Information Statements for H1N1 were recently released by the CDC. They can be found at the following sites: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/Pubs/vis/downloads/vis-laiiv-h1n1.pdf> and <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/Pubs/vis/downloads/vis-inact-h1n1.pdf>

Clearly, the amount of vaccine currently available is not sufficient to begin large-scale vaccination clinics. Immunization activities should target children aged 2-4 years, branching out to older siblings, people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age, and healthcare and emergency services personnel with direct patient contact as vaccine permits and the practice can accommodate.

The Georgia Immunization Program plans on providing a list of H1N1 vaccine providers on the state website, www.health.state.ga.us/h1n1flu, soon. The deadline for Agreement submission is October 9, 2009.

Please continue to read the Chapter's H1N1 webpage for updated vaccine distribution information:
<http://www.gaaap.org/H1N1.htm>

For questions or concerns regarding this blastfax or any other immunization information, please contact the Chapter's Immunization Coordinator, Mike Chaney at (404) 881-5094 or mchaney@gaaap.org.