

**Blastfax**

**Responding to the Current Influenza Vaccine Shortage**

**Priority should be given to high risk patients as indicated below:**

- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years
- Pregnant women
- American Indians and Alaskan Natives

**Medical conditions including:**

- Asthma
- Neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions [including disorders of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, and muscle such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy (seizure disorders), stroke, intellectual disability (mental retardation), moderate to severe developmental delay, muscular dystrophy, or spinal cord injury].
- Chronic lung disease (such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD] and cystic fibrosis)
- Heart disease such as congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease)
- Blood disorders (such as sickle cell disease)
- Endocrine disorders (such as diabetes mellitus)
- Kidney disorders
- Liver disorders
- Metabolic disorders (such as inherited metabolic disorders and mitochondrial disorders)
- Weakened immune system due to disease or medication (such as people with HIV or AIDS, or cancer, or those on chronic steroids)
- Children receiving long-term aspirin therapy
- Morbidly obese (Body Mass Index, or BMI of 40 or greater)

*Harry Keyserling, MD, FAAP*

Chair, Committee on Infectious Disease

*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](mailto:mchaney@gaaap.org)*