

Seasonal and Pandemic Vaccine Guidance Aug. 11, 2009
Knox County Health Department
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2009 H1N1 Pandemic Influenza Information:

As school starts back, we expect to see the current low levels of pandemic influenza disease in Tennessee increase. This correspondence contains information on what to expect about vaccine and where to go for the latest updates from the CDC. Please start giving seasonal vaccine as soon as it arrives; you will want to make room for pandemic vaccine coming soon! Immunity from either injected or live virus flu vaccines will last for at least a year.

Vaccine Developments:

- The CDC has recommended these priority target groups for vaccination, based upon their burden of disease and risk of serious illness:
 - Everyone ages 6 months through 24 years
 - All pregnant women and persons living with or caring for infants <6 months
 - All healthcare workers and emergency services personnel
 - Persons 25-64 with other medical risk factors
- There will be plenty of vaccine, roughly 120 million doses by the end of October, with 80 million per month after that, until demand is satisfied
- Most people will need 2 doses at least 3 weeks apart (studies are being done to define that now)
- The vaccine will be FDA licensed – it is the same vaccine as seasonal flu, just with a different virus strain.
- Vaccine, and supplies to give it, will be provided by the federal government – providers who administer the vaccine will be able to charge an administration fee

Vaccine in Tennessee

- If you are a VFC enrolled provider you will receive updates through VFC blast faxes
- Non-VFC providers (most of you) may register to get information about receiving and administering the pandemic vaccine at their facility by going to the Tennessee Web Immunization System (TWIS) at <http://twis.tn.gov>
- If you are a company which normally provides flu vaccine for your staff and have a medical director, you may register on TWIS (<http://twis.tn.gov>) to receive information and be considered for receiving pandemic vaccine
- **If you are not a VFC provider you must register on TWIS in order to be considered for receiving pandemic vaccine and to receive information on pandemic vaccine.**
- **VFC providers do not need to sign up there – we presume that you will want to receive and administer this vaccine to your patients, so you will automatically be sent all necessary information.**
- Information is still emerging – Knox County Health Department will keep you updated.
- Pandemic vaccine and supplies will be shipped by McKesson and will be shipped in 100-dose increments.

For the latest H1N1 guidance from CDC

- www.flu.gov or www.cdc.gov
- We recommend your office's pandemic influenza point person go to www.cdc.gov and click on "Get email updates" to the right of the page. There, he or she can subscribe for email notices about H1N1 whenever new guidance for clinicians or vaccine information is updated.