

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BUREAU FLU ADVISORY

October 2, 2009



VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Update on Massachusetts

Massachusetts Statewide Conference on H1N1 Influenza

This week, Governor Patrick, Health and Human Services Secretary Judyann Bigby and DPH Commissioner John Auerbach joined numerous DPH subject matter experts to share the latest information on H1N1 and seasonal flu at the Statewide Conference on H1N1 Influenza. Updated guidance and resources for flu vaccination planning were presented. The Summit attracted over 800 participants from a wide range of organizations including hospitals, community health centers, local public health and public safety agencies, primary and secondary educational institutions, representatives of industry and small business, and other state and local partners.

Governor Deval Patrick announced that the state has placed its first order for the H1N1 vaccine with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This initial small shipment, about 35,000 doses, will be used exclusively for health care workers. Additional H1N1 vaccine shipments will arrive weekly throughout the rest of flu season and DPH anticipates that in about six to eight weeks enough vaccine will be available for local public flu clinics to begin taking place.

Participants also had the opportunity to attend breakout sessions which focused on specific topics including clinical management, surge capacity and challenges in school and university settings. A significant amount of time on the agenda was devoted to questions and answers from the audience.

An archived webcast of the entire conference will be available online soon. Presentation slides and document downloads are available at. <http://video.webcasts.com/events/pmny001/viewer/index.jsp?eventid=32329>

Influenza Report

As of October 1, 2009, 1412 confirmed cases of 2009 H1N1 have been reported throughout Massachusetts. This represents an additional 6 cases reported since the last update on September 24, 2009. School-aged individuals (5-18 years) have been primarily affected by H1N1, with over 63% of cases age 18 or younger.

DPH Vaccinator Trainings Continue

In an effort to ensure vaccinator preparedness DPH is offering a series of vaccinator trainings. The trainings are being held in several locations across the Commonwealth. The target audience for these trainings will be health care professionals that will be assisting with the Influenza vaccination clinics such as nurses, physicians, pharmacists, dentists, and paramedics.

The trainings cover:

- Initial target groups to receive H1N1 vaccine,
- screening,
- immunization administration (both intramuscular and intranasal) for children and adults,
- vaccine storage and handling,
- standing orders,
- documentation & record keeping,
- adverse event reporting,
- infection control procedures, and available resources.

Each session allows time for attendees to practice administering both intramuscular injections and intranasal spray.

Program length: 4 hours. Continuing education credits will be provided for physicians, nurses, EMTs/paramedics.

For more information, or to register [click here](#).

Please go to the Department of Public Health's website at www.mass.gov/dph to receive the most up to date information and resources.

CDC Update

This week the CDC continued to post a number of new and updated resources on its website, <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>.

Included are:

2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and Seniors

http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/vaccine_seniors.htm

Interim Recommendations for Clinical Use of Influenza Diagnostic Tests During the 2009-10 Influenza Season

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/diagnostic_tests.htm

Q & A Interim Recommendations for Clinical Use of Influenza Diagnostic Testing During the 2009-2010 Influenza Season
~ For Health Care Providers

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/diagnostic_testing_clinicians_qa.htm

Q & A Influenza Diagnostic Testing During the 2009-2010 Flu Season
~ For the Public

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/diagnostic_testing_public_qa.htm

Flyer: H1N1 and Seasonal Flu: What To Do If You Get Sick

http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/2009-10/pdf/what_to_do_if_you_get_sick.pdf

Q & A 2009 H1N1 Vaccine Financing

http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/statelocal/vaccine_financing.htm

Contact Us

MSAR

www.mass.gov/MSAR

msar@dph.state.ma.us

MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS OF MASSACHUSETTS

www.mamedicalreservecorps.org

rhecchio@mamedicalreservecorps.org

This e-mail newsletter was produced by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in collaboration with the Massachusetts Medical Society.



Massachusetts
Department of
Public Health



MASSACHUSETTS
MEDICAL SOCIETY

External links to websites and e-mail addresses are provided to give readers an opportunity to access additional information. The MDPH and MMS are not responsible for content in these external sources.

© Copyright 2009 Massachusetts Medical Society. All Rights Reserved.