

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BUREAU FLU ADVISORY

January 29, 2010



## VOLUNTEER UPDATE

***The weekly H1N1 Flu Advisory will be suspended as of January 29, 2010. A special advisory will be issued when new information or guidance is released. The weekly updates will resume, if needed, in the future.***

### Update on Massachusetts

#### H1N1 Activity

Once again this week influenza-like illness activity remains low and is consistent with what is expected at this time of year. As of January 28, 2010, 1979 confirmed cases of H1N1 have been reported throughout Massachusetts since April of 2009. The median age of cases is 15 and cases ranged from 0 to 92 years. To date, males and females have been equally impacted by H1N1. Overall, 397 cases have been hospitalized (20%) and 31 cases have died. Of the 31 deaths, 27 had known underlying medical conditions. To read this week's complete influenza report [click here](#).

Flu season can last as late as May. It's possible that other waves of influenza activity may occur this flu season – caused by either 2009 H1N1 viruses or regular seasonal flu viruses. Therefore, DPH continues to encourage everyone to take this opportunity to get vaccinated. To find flu clinics in your area visit <http://flu.masspro.org>.

#### Vaccine Availability

Providers looking for **seasonal influenza vaccine** available for purchase can check with IVATS (Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System). IVATS provides information about vaccine manufacturers and distributors with vaccine available for purchase. To access this information, go to:

[http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/ivats\\_09\\_10.pdf](http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/ivats_09_10.pdf).

There is plenty of **H1N1 vaccine** available in all formulations, except for 0.25 pre-filled syringes. For questions about requesting H1N1 vaccine or reporting doses administered, please call the H1N1 Vaccine help Desk at 617-983-6898.

#### CDC Update

Despite the overall decrease in flu activity, the H1N1 virus is still circulating and it is still causing disease, hospitalizations and deaths. Many people are still susceptible to this virus and would benefit from vaccination. The CDC recommends continuing vaccination with seasonal influenza vaccine and 2009 H1N1 vaccine.

The CDC provides [updated 2009 H1N1 vaccine supply and distribution data](#) daily at around 12:00pm on their website.

In addition, the CDC posted a number of new and updated resources on its website <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>. Included are:

*Updated Q & A: Seasonal and 2009 H1N1 Flu Vaccines for Businesses*  
[http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/business\\_qa.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/business_qa.htm)

*Updated:* Key Facts About 2009 H1N1 Flu Vaccine

[http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/vaccine\\_keyfacts.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/vaccine_keyfacts.htm)

*Updated Q & A:* Vaccine against 2009 H1N1 Influenza Virus

[http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/public/vaccination\\_qa\\_pub.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/public/vaccination_qa_pub.htm)

Guidance from Pediatric Stakeholders: A Coordinated Approach to Communicating Pediatric-related Information on Pandemic Influenza at the Community Level

[http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/pediatrics\\_tool.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/pediatrics_tool.htm)

MMWR: Outbreaks of 2009 Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) Among Long-Term--Care Facility Residents --- Three States, 2009

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5903a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm5903a3\\_e%0d%0a](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5903a3.htm?s_cid=mm5903a3_e%0d%0a)

Contact Us

**MSAR**

[www.mass.gov/MSAR](http://www.mass.gov/MSAR)

[msar@dph.state.ma.us](mailto:msar@dph.state.ma.us)

**MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS OF MASSACHUSETTS**

[www.mamedicalreservecorps.org](http://www.mamedicalreservecorps.org)

[rchecchio@mamedicalreservecorps.org](mailto:rchecchio@mamedicalreservecorps.org)

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