

NJDHSS H1N1 Vaccination Activities Update for Providers October 8, 2009

Availability of the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program and H1N1 Vaccine System Help Desks

For providers and local health departments: hours of operation for inquiries regarding the H1N1 Vaccine System and vaccination activities are Monday to Friday 9a to 5p.

Monday October 12, 2009 is a state and federal holiday.

- NJDHSS's help desks will be open to handle inquiries on Tuesday, October 13, 2009.
- Additionally, providers will not receive vaccine shipments on October 12, 2009. CDC/McKesson will be open to receive, process, and ship doses for delivery on Tuesday, October 13, 2009.

Update on ordering (injectable vaccine now available) and re-ordering processes

During the first week of October, live attenuated intranasal vaccine (LAIV) became available for distribution to states. Many New Jersey providers have placed orders for LAIV and have already received this vaccine.

Beginning today (October 8, 2009), all providers may now order injectable vaccine; please visit the H1N1 Vaccine System for more information on injectable formulations that are currently available for order.

- Since New Jersey's initial allocation of these injectable vaccines is extremely limited, NJDHSS will approve injectable vaccine orders only from LINCS agencies today and tomorrow (October 8-9). LINCS agencies may use these vaccines for public immunization clinics or distribute these vaccines to providers in their communities, based on their considerations of target group and provider needs.
- NJDHSS will begin approvals of injectable vaccine orders from all other providers beginning Tuesday October 13.

Please note that providers who have ordered LAIV will also be able to order injectable vaccine at this time. However, providers will need to provide doses administered and temperature log information (see below) prior to re-ordering additional doses of either LAIV and/or injectable vaccine.

Also, NJDHSS expects that there will be times when New Jersey's allocations of either LAIV or injectable vaccine will run low, given the staggered vaccine availability nationwide. If vaccines are out of stock at the time providers place orders, providers should be assured that they will receive their vaccine orders as soon as New Jersey

receives its next vaccine allocations. Additionally, NJDHSS will release information on additional vaccine formulations as they become available. Please continue to logon to the H1N1 Vaccine System or watch for NJDHSS updates.

Finally, NJDHSS reminds providers to carefully review their orders before submitting them. NJDHSS has received numerous requests for cancellations or modifications of orders. The ordering process is complex, and occasionally, NJDHSS will not be able to accommodate changes once orders are placed.

Plans to reopen provider registration and additional ship-to sites

Provider registration in the H1N1 Vaccine System will reopen on Tuesday October 13, 2009.

- Registration will likely remain open-ended for vaccinator only sites, but registration for ship-to sites likely will become closed once New Jersey's ship-to sites quota is met.
- Currently, over 2,700 providers have registered in the H1N1 Vaccine System as either ship-to or vaccinator only sites. NJDHSS anticipates having a better assessment of the number of sites in the next several days, after LINCS agencies finalize approvals of sites in their jurisdictions.
- LINCS agencies should ensure that all providers approved as vaccinator only sites understand the process of ordering and receiving vaccine from associated ship-to sites and that vaccinator only sites are given the contact information for the individual responsible for ordering vaccine at the associated ship-to site.

CDC has informed all states that additional ship-to sites will be available. NJDHSS will update LINCS agencies and local health departments with additional ship-to site information as soon as it becomes available.

Finally, NJDHSS has identified some of the technical system problems that might have prevented some providers from registering in late September, and NJDHSS has corrected these identified problems. We again apologize for any inconveniences and hope that providers do not encounter these technical issues going forward.

Doses administered reporting, temperature logs, and vaccination record cards

As providers begin to receive and administer vaccines, NJDHSS reminds providers to ensure that they report doses administered and provide temperature logs regarding vaccine storage in the H1N1 Vaccine System, per CDC stipulations. Providers will need to report this information prior to re-order of additional doses of vaccine.

NJDHSS reminds providers to give vaccinated individuals influenza vaccination record cards which are provided with shipped supplies; however, providers can always access information on vaccinated individuals through the H1N1 Vaccine System.

Training

Beginning on Tuesday October 13, 2009, a training manual and demonstrations of the H1N1 Vaccine System will be available online. Providers may view specific components of the H1N1 Vaccine System (e.g., user registration, ordering) or the entire system with the training demonstrations. Additionally, a new schedule of live training will be available, and providers who wish to attend a live training may register through the New Jersey Learning Management Network at <https://njlmn.rutgers.edu/>.

Adverse events reporting

NJDHSS reminds providers to report clinically significant adverse events following H1N1 vaccination whether or not it is certain that the vaccine caused the adverse event. Adverse event reports to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), a vaccine safety surveillance system, may be submitted in a number of ways:

- (1) Online via a secure website, <https://secure.vaers.org/VaersDataEntryintro.htm>; or
- (2) By fax, where completed VAERS forms may be transmitted to 877-721-0366; or
- (3) By mail, where completed VAERS forms may be sent to VAERS, PO Box 1100, Rockville, MD 20949-1100.

Providers may access the VAERS form through the H1N1 Vaccine System or visit www.vaers.hhs.gov/pdf/vaers_form.pdf. Additional information on adverse events reporting is available at the NJDHSS H1N1 webpage.

NJDHSS again thanks providers for their participation in H1N1 vaccination efforts. As a reminder, for additional information, please visit <http://www.nj.gov/health/flu/h1n1.shtml> or contact the NJDHSS Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 609-588-7512 or 609-584-4141 (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm). For IT/technical questions related to the H1N1 Vaccine System, please contact the IT Help Desk at 609-341-5254 (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm).