

State of Alaska

2009 H1N1 (Swine) influenza Mass Immunization Toolkit

Introduction

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued the following recommendation:

When vaccine is first available, ACIP recommends that programs and providers administer vaccine to persons in the following five target groups (order of target groups does not indicate priority):

- pregnant women,
- anyone who lives with or cares for infants under 6 months old (e.g., parents, siblings, and daycare providers),
- health-care and emergency medical services personnel,
- anyone 6 months to 24 years old, and
- anyone 25 to 64 years old who has medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications. Chronic medical conditions that confer a higher risk for influenza-related complications include chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except hypertension), renal, hepatic, cognitive, neurologic/neuromuscular, hematologic, or metabolic disorders (including diabetes mellitus) or immunosuppression (including immunosuppression caused by medications or by human immunodeficiency virus)
(MMWR, August 28, 2009 / 58(RR10);1-8)

In Alaska, about 56% of the population is in the above target groups. Therefore, efficient and effective options to immunize these large numbers are needed. One option is the Mass Dispensing Clinic (MDC). The Department of Health and Social Services of the State of Alaska has prepared this MDC toolkit to assist you and your community partners in your planning.

An MDC can be held for a school or for an entire jurisdiction; **regardless of the size of the clinic, the MDC concepts are the same.** This toolkit contains many documents; it is comprehensive so that you have an arsenal of guides and ideas from which for you and your planning partners can select and adapt to fit your needs. Reviewing the toolkit documents with your partners also allows individuals to identify roles and responsibilities required for a successful MDC.

Community partners will vary based on the community being served by the MDC. The community may be one school or an entire village or town. Therefore your community partners may include: community administrators (mayors, superintendants, and so on), other medical providers (such as physicians, nurses, and PAs.), public health nurses, EMS personnel, schools

(parents, teachers, administrators), coalitions, and tribal leadership and community health center personnel. .

- The State of Alaska Division of Public Health has held many mass dispensing clinic exercises over the past few years Guidance and various types of support are available from multiple resources within communities and Public Health.

The following links provide continuously updated information on H1N1 and pandemic influenza topics:

- State of Alaska Pandemic Flu website:
www.pandemicflu.alaska.gov
- Centers for Disease Control pandemic influenza website:
www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/index.html
- Center for Disease Control 2009 H1N1 Influenza School-Located Vaccination Planning Guide:
www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination.sly