



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Ted Strickland/Governor

Alvin D. Jackson, M.D./Director of Health

To: Ohio Immunization providers

From: Michèle Shipp, MD, DrPH, Assistant Director *MS*

Date: August 17, 2009

RE: Provider Pre-registration for Pandemic influenza vaccination

This fall, to protect the public from the pandemic H1N1 influenza virus, the federal government will provide pandemic vaccine and supplies (needles, syringes, sharps containers, alcohol swabs) at no cost to states. The federal government estimates that approximately 120 million doses will be available over the first month of shipping and that enough vaccine will be distributed to fully meet U.S. demand in less than 6 months. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) will be responsible for directing the shipment of the vaccine and supplies in Ohio.

Local health districts in Ohio will be responsible for assurance that their population is offered the vaccine, but the massive scope of the vaccination efforts creates a need for partnership with many health care providers. Private sector providers will be permitted to charge an administration fee; however, the conditions of this federal program have not been finalized. ODH is offering the opportunity for health care providers interested in registering to order pandemic influenza vaccine and supplies to pre-register to receive information about the program at no cost and with no obligation.

Pre-registered providers will receive e mail updates regarding the pandemic vaccination program and important information to prepare their facility to store, handle and administer pandemic vaccine properly. Pre-registered points of contact for the facilities will ultimately receive the federal pandemic vaccine provider agreement and receive instructions for registering and ordering vaccine. Only providers who ultimately place orders and meet the conditions of the provider agreement will receive vaccine. Because the federal program is under development, ODH cannot guarantee that all pre-registered providers will receive vaccine directly shipped to them or the timing or size of shipments. Vaccine is expected to begin shipping through this mechanism as early as mid-October.

To pre-register, access the information and pre-registration form on the ODH web site at <http://h1n1vaccine.odh.ohio.gov>. You may contact the Immunization Program at 614-466-4643 or 1-800-282-0546 if you need any assistance with the pre-registration process.