It's Time to Order Vaccine & Prepare for the 2010-2011 Flu Season!

Influenza Bulletin #1 2010/2011 ~June 2010

ACIP has recommended Universal Flu Vaccination for the 2010-2011 Flu Season.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend universal flu vaccination for all persons 6 months of age and older without a contraindication to vaccination, such as an egg allergy. This recommendation will allow you to protect more patients from the flu than ever before. It will also simplify your flu vaccination process since you will no longer need to screen patients 6 months of age and older based on their age or health conditions, except to identify candidates for live attenuated flu vaccine.

If you have a limited supply of vaccine, you may consider vaccinating high-risk patients first. However, vaccinating the people around high-risk patients, particularly children, who are likely to bring flu into the household may be the best way to protect these high-risk patients.

The Pandemic H1N1 antigen will be one of three components in the 2010-2011 trivalent seasonal flu vaccine.

A separate vaccine will not be needed to protect against Pandemic H1N1 flu. A single trivalent vaccine will protect your patients from the flu virus strains that are mostly likely to circulate in the fall. The 2010-2011 trivalent vaccine will include: A/California/7/2009, A/Perth/16/2009, and B/Brisbane/60/2008.

Patients who received Pandemic H1N1 monovalent flu vaccine this past flu season will not likely have significant residual protection against the H1N1 virus strain in the upcoming season. They will also need to be protected against the other two strains of flu that might circulate this year. For these two reasons, they will need to receive trivalent flu vaccine this fall.

If you have not ordered flu vaccine, please place your order with the manufacturers now.

Trivalent seasonal flu vaccine will only be available this fall through vaccine manufacturers and distributors. Vaccine will not be provided through the national centralized flu vaccine distribution program in collaboration with local health departments that was in place to support Pandemic H1N1 flu vaccination.

It is important to place your flu vaccine order as soon as possible so that you are more likely to have an adequate vaccine supply in early fall to meet your patients' needs.

Contact information for flu vaccination manufacturers and distributors is available at:

- www.flusupplynews.com/resources.cfm
- www.preventinfluenza.org/profs_production.asp

A physician recommendation is the most influential factor in a patient's choice to be vaccinated.

In the upcoming flu season, use every encounter as an opportunity to immunize your patients.

English-language and Spanish-language patient and staff educational materials are available for download at www.eziz.org.

In the fall, visit www.immunize.org to download multi-language Vaccine Information Statements (VIS).

Stay up-to-date with the latest information on the flu vaccine.

Visit the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Immunization Program website at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip or contact the Immunization Program on weekdays between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm at 213-351-7800.

County of Los Angeles Public Health

Press Release
For Immediate Release: February 24, 2010
CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Recommends Universal Annual Influenza Vaccination

A panel of immunization experts voted today (February 24, 2010) to expand the recommendation for annual influenza vaccination to include all people aged 6 months and older. The expanded recommendation is to take effect in the 2010 – 2011 influenza season. The new recommendation seeks to remove barriers to influenza immunization and signals the importance of preventing influenza across the entire population.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which advises the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on vaccine issues, voted on the new recommendation during its February 24, 2010 meeting in Atlanta. The vote took place against a backdrop of incremental increases in the numbers and groups of people recommended for influenza vaccination in years past, and lessons learned from the world's still ongoing first flu pandemic in 40 years.

Prior to today's vote, ACIP recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccination – which focused on vaccination of higher risk persons, children 6 months through 18 years of age and close contacts of higher risk persons – already applied to about 85 percent of the U.S. population.

Discussion at the ACIP meeting focused on the value of protecting all people 19 to 49 years of age, who have been hard hit by the 2009 H1N1 pandemic virus, which is likely to continue circulating into next season and beyond. Another reason cited in favor of a universal recommendation for vaccination is that many people in currently recommended "higher risk" groups are unaware of their risk factor or that they are recommended for vaccination. The ACIP discussion also recognized the practicality and value of issuing a simple and clear message regarding the importance of influenza vaccination in the hopes that this would remove impediments to vaccination and expand coverage. Finally, new data collected over the course of the 2009 H1N1 pandemic indicates that some people who do not currently have a specific recommendation for vaccination may also be at higher risk of serious flu-related complications, including those people who are obese, post-partum women and people in certain racial/ethnic groups.
More influenza vaccine doses will be required to vaccinate all adults. However, based on current projections, more licensed types and brands of seasonal influenza vaccines will be available in the 2010-11 influenza season than has ever been available before. Historically, uptake of seasonal influenza vaccine has been less than half of the number of persons with a specific recommendation for vaccination.

Annual influenza vaccination is a safe and preventive health action that benefits all age groups. However, certain people have a higher risk for influenza complications, including people aged 65 years and older, children younger than 6 months of age, pregnant women, and people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions.

These people, their household and close contacts, and all health care personnel should continue to be a primary focus for vaccination efforts as providers and programs transition to routinely vaccinating all people 6 months of age and older.

The composition of the Northern Hemisphere's 2010-2011 seasonal influenza was announced at the FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) meeting yesterday in Bethesda, MD. Next season's vaccine will be trivalent (with three different vaccine viruses) and include an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus, an A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2)-like virus, and a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus. The H1N1 virus recommended for inclusion in the 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine is a pandemic 2009 H1N1 virus and is the same virus used in the 2009 H1N1 monovalent vaccine.

Recommendations of the ACIP become recommendations of CDC once they are accepted by the director of CDC and the Secretary of Health and Human Services and are published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (VFC) PROGRAM
ENROLLMENT REQUEST FAX TO:(877) 329-9832

Enrolling in VFC is as simple as following these steps!

1. **Request an enrollment packet.** You may submit this enrollment request by faxing **VFC's Toll-free number (877) 329-9832** and provide the following information. Please allow 5 business days for the processing of your request.
   - Your practice name and mailing address
   - Contact person and phone numbers (including your FAX number and e-mail address if available)
   - Practice type (public or private) and practice specialty
2. **Complete enrollment forms.** Upon receipt of your VFC Enrollment Packet, please review, complete, and sign your enrollment forms. The Provider Enrollment Form must be signed by the physician-in chief or the clinic's medical director. Organizations with multiple facilities must complete enrollment forms for each of their sites. Please mail forms to:

   California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
   Attn: New Enrollments
   850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, Second Floor
   Richmond, CA 94804
3. **Schedule a site visit review.** Within 2 weeks of the receipt of your forms, you will be contacted by your local VFC Representative to arrange a New Provider Enrollment site visit and approve your facility for enrollment in our program.
4. **Submit your first vaccine order.** Once your site is approved, you will receive a "VFC Welcome Packet" which will include your new VFC Provider Identification Number or PIN. You will need this number for all interactions with the VFC Program. Once your new PIN number is assigned, VFC will process your first vaccine order.

If you are interested in joining the California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program, please complete this Provider Enrollment Request.

TYPE OF ENROLLMENT REQUEST	☐ New Enrollment	☐ Re-enrollment Request	☐ Currently enrolled in VFC, but requesting own Provider Identification Number (PIN)	DATE
PRACTICE NAME		CONTACT PERSON FOR VFC ENROLLMENT		
FACILITY MAILING ADDRESS *(Number, Street and ZIP—No P.O. Boxes)*		CITY	ZIP CODE	
TELEPHONE:	FAX:	EMAIL:	COUNTY:	

Are immunizations currently available at this practice? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please Indicate the Type of Facility

Public	☐ **Local Health Department Clinic** ☐ **Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Clinic** ☐ **Hospital** ☐ **School/University** ☐ **Other (Please specify):** _____	**Private**	☐ **Private Practice (Individual or Group)** ☐ **School/University** ☐ **Hospital** ☐ **Other (Please specify):** _____

Please Indicate Practice Specialty

☐ Pediatrics Family ☐ Family Practice ☐ Intern. Medicine ☐ Multi-specialty ☐ OB/GYN/ Women's Health

☐ Other (Please specify): _____

Thank you for your enrollment request. *Please allow 5 business days for the processing of your request.*