



Public Health Advisory
Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department
ARRIVAL OF H1N1 VACCINE IN OHIO COUNTY

TO: Ohio County Health Care Providers

FROM: Howard Gamble, MPH
Administrator, Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department

DATE: October 8, 2009 5:00pm

Limited supplies of the vaccine for the H1N1 virus are beginning to arrive in Ohio County. At this time the vaccine is being target to health care providers that registered with the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, Immunization Program, as a provider for the vaccine.

Health care providers should prioritize staff in their facility for distribution of the vaccine. Direct care staff and/or those who would be seeing high risk patients should receive initial supplies of the vaccine first. Future shipments (either Live/Attenuated or Inactivated) of vaccine will follow for all your staff.

The health department and Ohio County is following the guidance of CDC and will target current vaccinations to five (5) population groups.

- pregnant women
- people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- persons between the ages of 6 months through 24 years
- people ages 25 through 64 years who are at higher risk for novel H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

These population groups are not in order and eventually vaccine will be available to all individuals. As vaccine continues to flow into Ohio County, the health department will open mass vaccination clinics for several of these population groups (including a mass healthcare/EMS clinic).

At this time the health department is requesting all health care facilities that receive H1N1 vaccine to contact the health department once a shipment has arrived.

If your facility has received vaccine and cannot use the vaccine at this time (for any reason), the health department will accept the vaccine to be re-distributed to another facility. Please call (304) 234-3682 or (304) 830-0420.