



County of Erie

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HEALTH ALERT ADVISORY #270

April 15, 2010

H1N1 SECOND DOSE REMINDER

Please distribute to Pediatrics, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Allergy, and all other providers with pediatric patients.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that children less than 10 years of age receive a second dose of H1N1 vaccine at least 28 days after the first dose. Utilizing the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS), Erie County Department of Health generated a list of 18,563 children in Erie County who received their first dose of H1N1 vaccine between October 2009 and March 2010 but had not received their second dose. The attached letter will be mailed to the parent/guardian of each child encouraging them to contact their primary care provider to obtain the second dose. Erie County supports CDC's recommendation and is requesting your assistance with this important public health initiative. Please continue to offer H1N1 vaccine to your patients and ensure that children under 10 years of age receive the second dose. Please contact the Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness at (716) 961-6860 if you need additional H1N1 vaccine or vaccine supplies. (Note, only injectable vaccine is currently available).

Reminder on second vaccine doses for children less than 10.

- The state immunization registry or NYSIIS can be used to check which children need a second dose and can generate both reminder lists and letters.
- Pre-filled 0.25 ml syringes for children under age 3 years are no longer available. Please use vaccine from multi-dose vials for second doses.
- NYSDOH has waived the provisions of state law that usually restricts the use of thimerosal-containing influenza vaccines in pregnant women and children under the age of 3 years. There is no scientific evidence of harm caused by the low doses of thimerosal in vaccines. For more information, see: http://www.nyhealth.gov/diseases/communicable/influenza/h1n1/health_care_providers/frequently_asked_questions/vaccine_containing_thimerosal.htm
- Erie County Department of Health recommends a second dose for children who were 9 years of age at the time of first dose even if they have since turned 10 years of age.

Reminder to report vaccine doses administered.

- The federal provider agreement, which you signed to receive H1N1 influenza vaccine, requires that you continue to report vaccine usage.
- Providers must report vaccine given to persons less than 19 years of age to the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS). For more information, see: http://www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/immunization/information_system/

Please contact the ECDOH Immunization Action Program at (716) 961-6839 with any questions regarding this advisory or H1N1 vaccination.

Health Category Definitions:

Health Alert FLASH: conveys the highest level of importance due to a large-scale, catastrophic public health emergency; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Alert Priority: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention to a health problem or situation

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary

The ECDOH Health Alert & Advisory System is an e-mail notification system designed to alert community partners about important health related information. **You can sign up to receive alerts & advisories at www.erie.gov/health/services/health_professionals.asp.**

The Erie County Department of Health does not provide medical advice. The information provided herein and on the Erie County Department of Health website is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of your personal physician or other qualified health provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition or issue. Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of the content found on the Erie County Department of Health website or this correspondence.