

Health Alerts

Health Advisory #189 - Pediatric and Adult Influenza Vaccine Availability - 12/14/2006

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Immunization Program and the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) currently have a supply of trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine that is available to community healthcare providers for their patients and staff at no cost. Both adult and pediatric formulas are currently available. This vaccine has been provided at no cost by the NYSDOH; therefore, you may not charge patients or insurance carriers for the cost of the vaccine. An administration fee may be charged.

The vaccine can be obtained as follows:

- For adult or pediatric vaccine in lots of 100 doses or more, contact the NYSDOH Immunization Program directly at 518-473-4437.
- For adult or pediatric vaccine in lots of less than 100 doses, contact the ECDOH at 716-858-7656 during regular business hours (Monday - Friday; 8:30am - 4:30pm).

Providers are encouraged to continue influenza vaccination throughout the entire influenza season. Influenza activity is currently sporadic and at a low level in New York State and often does not peak until February or March. Therefore, continued vaccination efforts have the potential to protect many more people against influenza this season. There are no restrictions on the use of this vaccine. Anyone who wishes to be vaccinated against influenza can receive the vaccine; both high-risk and low-risk individuals are encouraged to get vaccinated.

For more information on influenza, please see

<http://www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/influenza/seasonal/>.