



County of Erie

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CHRIS COLLINS
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH



HEALTH ALERT PRIORITY #265

December 23, 2009

Updated Version: *Please note that the H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccine available through the Erie County Department of Health can only be distributed to healthcare providers in Erie County. Thank you.*

Seasonal and H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Availability

The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) has partnered with Independent Health, Univera Healthcare, and BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York to enhance our ability to quickly distribute important information to health care providers in Erie County. We think this collaboration will serve all of us well.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Information

The ECDOH currently has a limited supply of seasonal trivalent, inactivated influenza vaccine that will be made available to community healthcare providers **in Erie County** for their patients and staff at no cost. Vaccine for use in adults and children, ages 3 years and older, will be made available on a first come, first served basis.

This vaccine has been provided at no cost by the NYSDOH through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA); **therefore, you may not charge patients or insurance carriers for the cost of the vaccine. However, an administration fee may be charged.**

If you choose to accept this vaccine, you must agree in writing to report dose administration information back to the ECDOH in a timely manner according to stringent federal requirements.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Ordering Details:

- Please complete the attached Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Request Form and fax to (716) 961-6897 or email to doh@erie.gov by close of business **Thursday December 31, 2009**.
- Please indicate both the total number of doses requested and the number of doses that will be used in a two-week time period.
- Based on total number of doses ordered by community providers, it may be necessary to only partially fill your requests.
- All vaccine must be picked up at the Erie County Department of Health at BB Building, 462 Grider Street, Buffalo between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday – Friday.
- Providers must ensure that proper cold chain storage and transport requirements are met.

Although additional shipments of seasonal flu vaccine may be received in the next several weeks, ultimately we may not be able to meet all of your patients' needs. Therefore, we ask that you initially prioritize this seasonal vaccine to your highest risk patients.

H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Information

The ECDOH currently has a limited supply of H1N1 vaccine that will be made available to community healthcare providers **in Erie County** for their patients and staff at no cost. There are several formulations of H1N1 vaccine. The appropriate formulation is indicated by the age of the recipient (see H1N1 Flu Vaccine Request Form for formulations). The ECDOH will make every effort to meet your requests, however our H1N1 vaccine supply is constantly changing based on the type and amount of vaccine received from the NYSDOH.

This vaccine has been provided at no cost by the United States Federal Government; **therefore, you may not charge patients or insurance carriers for the cost of the vaccine. However, an administration fee may be charged.**

If you choose to accept this vaccine, you must agree in writing to report dose administration information back to the ECDOH and NYSDOH in a timely manner according to stringent federal requirements.

Health care providers who agree to receive and administer H1N1 vaccine must pre-register with the NYS Department of Health at <https://hcsteamwork1.health.state.ny.us/pub> prior to receiving H1N1 vaccine from the ECDOH.

H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Ordering Details:

- Please complete the attached H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and Supply Request Form and fax to (716) 961-6897 or email to doh@erie.gov by **close of business Thursday December 31, 2009.**
- Please indicate both the total number of doses requested and the number of doses that will be used in a two-week time period.
- Based on total number of doses and formulation type ordered by community providers, it may be necessary to only partially fill your requests.
- All vaccine must be picked up at the Erie County Department of Health at BB Building, 462 Grider Street, Buffalo between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday – Friday.
- Providers must ensure that proper cold chain storage and transport requirements are met.

Effective December 10, 2009, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has suspended the requirement that the H1N1 influenza vaccine be restricted to the CDC's initial priority groups. Effective immediately, the 2009 H1N1 vaccine can now be administered to anyone 6 months of age and older who wishes to receive it and for whom it is not contra-indicated.

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.



Erie County Department of Health
Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Telephone: (716) 961-6860 Fax: (716) 951-6897
462 Grider Street, BB Building Buffalo, New York 14215

**Healthcare Provider
Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Request Form**

Medical Practice Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Office Phone: (____) _____
 Office Fax: (____) _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Authorizing Representative: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Medical Practice Type (check those that apply):

Pediatric _____ OB/GYN _____ Family Practice _____
 Internal Medicine _____ Occupational Medicine _____
 Rad/Onc _____ Other _____

Total number of doses requested: _____

Number of doses that can be administered
in a 2-week period: _____

Upon receipt of your request, a representative of the Erie County Department of Health will contact the Authorizing Representative of the requester's medical facility to make arrangements for pick-up of Seasonal Influenza Vaccine.
Any questions or clarifications of requests should be directed to (716) 961-6860.

Please Return via FAX to: (716) 961-6897 by Thursday December 31, 2009



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Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness

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462 Grider Street, BB Building Buffalo, New York 14215

**Healthcare Provider
H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and Supply Request Form**

Medical Practice Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Office Phone: (____) _____
 Office Fax: (____) _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Authorizing Representative: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Medical Practice Type (check those that apply):

Pediatric _____ OB/GYN _____ Family Practice _____
 Internal Medicine _____ Occupational Medicine _____
 Rad/Onc _____ Other _____

Number of Doses Requested (multiples of 10): _____

Formulation (indicated by Age Distribution):

(6 months – 35 months of age) _____
 (3 years - 24 years of age) _____
 (+24 years – 49 years of age) _____
 (50 - 65 years of age) _____

An acknowledgement of your request will be e-mailed on receipt to the address provided. A representative of the Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness will contact the Authorizing Representative of the requester’s medical practice to make arrangements for pick-up of vaccine and supporting supplies. Any questions or clarifications of requests can be directed to (716) 961-6860.

Please Return via FAX to: (716) 961-6897 by Thursday December 31, 2009