

2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Fact Sheet

Provided by



WHEN IS IT EXPECTED THAT THE 2009 H1N1 VACCINE WILL BE AVAILABLE?

The 2009 H1N1 vaccine is expected to be available in October. More specific dates cannot be provided at this time as vaccine availability depends on several factors including manufacturing time and time needed to conduct clinical trials.

WILL THE SEASONAL FLU VACCINE ALSO PROTECT AGAINST THE 2009 H1N1 FLU?

The seasonal flu vaccine is not expected to protect against the 2009 H1N1 flu.

CAN THE SEASONAL VACCINE AND THE 2009 H1N1 VACCINE BE GIVEN AT THE SAME TIME?

It is anticipated that seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 vaccines may be administered on the same day. However, we expect the seasonal vaccine to be available earlier than the H1N1 vaccine.

WHO WILL BE RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE THE 2009 H1N1 VACCINE?

It is predicted that there may be initial shortages of the vaccine but that it will eventually be available to all. The CDC has recommended that target groups who should receive the H1N1 vaccine first include 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 and 24 years old, and people ages of 25 through 64 years of age who are at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

DO THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED AGAINST THE 1976 SWINE INFLUENZA NEED TO GET VACCINATED AGAINST THE 2009 H1N1 INFLUENZA?

The 1976 swine flu virus and the 2009 H1N1 virus are different enough that it is unlikely a person vaccinated in 1976 will have full protection from the 2009 H1N1. People vaccinated in 1976 should still be given the 2009 H1N1 vaccine.

WHERE WILL THE VACCINE BE AVAILABLE?

Every state is developing a vaccine delivery plan. Vaccine will be available in a combination of settings such as vaccination clinics organized by local health departments, healthcare provider offices, schools, and other private settings, such as pharmacies and workplaces.



WHAT ABOUT THE USE OF ANTIVIRALS TO TREAT 2009 H1N1 INFECTION?

Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaled powder) that fight against the flu by keeping flu viruses from reproducing in your body. If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster. They may also prevent serious flu complications. This fall, antivirals may be prioritized for persons with severe illness or those at higher risk for flu complications.