

**PANDEMIC (H1N1) 2009 INFLUENZA (HUMAN SWINE INFLUENZA)
VACCINATION UPDATE # 1: 10 September 2009
GENERAL PRACTITIONERS and ABORIGINAL MEDICAL SERVICES**

Please distribute this information to all medical staff in your practice

Key points

- 1. The national Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza vaccination campaign is anticipated to commence in late September or early October 2009.**
- 2. Panvax (®) H1N1 vaccine can now be ordered from the NSW Vaccine Centre.**
- 3. Vaccine dispatch will occur when the product is licensed by the TGA.**

Pandemic influenza (H1N1) 2009 is the predominant strain of influenza circulating. It is likely that it will continue to circulate throughout the warmer months, with higher than usual influenza activity, based on observations of what has occurred in the Northern Hemisphere.

The Australian Government has contracted CSL Ltd to produce a pandemic vaccine. CSL has provided safety and efficacy data to the Australian Government and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

The vaccination program will commence as soon as possible after TGA registration.

Vaccine information

The vaccine – **Panvax (®) H1N1 Pandemic influenza vaccine (CSL)** – will be distributed in packs of 10mL multi-dose vials (MDV) containing thiomersal as preservative. Always use a new needle and syringe for each patient and never re-enter a multi-dose vial with any used injecting equipment. Free vaccination packs will be available with vaccine supply (disposable items for vaccination, including syringes).

Reduce vaccine wastage by grouping patients for vaccination, where possible.

The dose is 15mcg (0.5mls per person) for those aged 10 years and over.

Clinical trials are underway to establish whether one or two doses are required. The vaccine is to be **stored at 2-8°C**. The vaccine has been developed by CSL Ltd and has been manufactured in the same way as seasonal influenza vaccines.

Ordering vaccine and vaccination packs (VacPacs)

NSW Health will dispatch vaccine when authorised to do so by the Australian Government. To assist in rolling out this large vaccination program, **the vaccine can now be ordered** using the accompanying order form. Free vaccination packs can also be ordered. **Please place your initial orders as soon as possible** by faxing the attached order form to the NSW Vaccine Centre on 1800 041 528. Orders will be filled according to stock available from the Australian Government.

You will receive information with firm dispatch and commencement dates as program details are communicated to NSW Health. More information, including Q&As for consumers and health professionals, will be available from the NSW Health H1N1 influenza 09 website as information is made available: <http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/index.asp>.

For more information, please call your local public health unit.

Camperdown/L'pool 02 9515 9420	Penrith 02 4734 2022	Broken Hill 08 8080 1499	Newcastle 02 4924 6477
Gosford 02 4349 4845	Randwick 02 9382 8333	Dubbo 02 6841 5569	Port Macquarie 02 6588 2750
Hornsby 02 9477 9400	Albury 02 6080 8900	Goulburn 02 4824 1837	Tamworth 02 6767 8630
Parramatta 02 9840 3603	Bathurst 02 6339 5601	Lismore 02 6620 7500	Wollongong 02 4221 6700

Yours sincerely



Dr Kerry Chant
Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director-General Population Health