



Dutchess County Department of Health Public Health Update*

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Michael C. Caldwell, MD, MPH
Commissioner of Health



William R. Steinhaus
County Executive

UPDATE on 2009 H1N1 vaccine protocols

Date: December 15, 2009 1:00 PM

Please Distribute to Healthcare Providers, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine, Critical Care, Nursing Homes, and Infection Control staff.

The Dutchess County Department of Health (DCDOH) would like to provide healthcare providers with the following updates:

- ◇ The **2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine can now be administered to anyone (ages 6 months and older) who wishes to receive it.**
- ◇ **The 2009 H1N1 vaccine is as safe and effective as the ordinary seasonal flu vaccine** and is developed using the same process as seasonal vaccine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported (12/4/09) no substantial differences between the safety of the 2009 H1N1 vaccines and that of seasonal flu vaccines (see: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5848a4.htm>).
- ◇ All 2009 H1N1 vaccine is produced from eggs. There are no H1N1 vaccine made from other derivatives. Consequently, **patients who have allergic reactions to eggs should not be vaccinated.**
- ◇ An individual's regular physician is still the best option for getting vaccinated. Vaccinating now will protect against current circulating H1N1 disease as well as a third wave of disease if it occurs in late winter and early spring. **All medical providers who would like to order vaccine must be registered.** To register please go to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) website and follow the H1N1 links to the registration page. If you are already registered, call the NYSDOH Vaccine Call Center at 1-800-KID-SHOT (or 1-800-543-7468) to place an order on your assigned day.
- ◇ The next public health clinic is scheduled on **Saturday, December 19, 2009, from 10am to 2pm at Stissing Mountain High School, 2829 Church Street, Pine Plains. The clinic is by *appointment only*.** To register, individuals can log on our website www.dutchessny.gov and click on "What to do about the Flu" icon. Those without internet access can call 845-486-2226 during regular business hours. Registration will close on Friday, December 18, 2009, at 4 pm.

For additional information about the vaccine, call the NYSDOH hotline at 1-800-808-1987.

For more information about local vaccination clinics, you can advise your patients to call the NYSDOH toll free hotline at 1.800.808.1987.

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***Health Alert**- conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention; **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; unlikely to require immediate action.

Dutchess County Department of Health

387 Main Street, Poughkeepsie NY 12601 • (845) 486-3400 • Fax (845) 486-3447 • TTY (845) 486-3417