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Recent H1N1 News and Information

[CDC MMWR - Effectiveness of 2008-09 Trivalent Influenza Vaccine Against 2009 Pandemic Influenza A \(H1N1\) –US, May-June 2009 - November 13, 2009](#)

Previous studies of the effectiveness of seasonal influenza vaccine on the risk for 2009 pandemic influenza A (H1N1) from Australia and Mexico showed no effect and a protective effect from the seasonal vaccine, respectively. Findings from this case-cohort study, taken together with other published studies, do not support an effect of 2008-09 seasonal influenza vaccine in either decreasing or increasing the risk for 2009 pandemic influenza A (H1N1) virus illness. CDC recommends vaccination with both seasonal and pandemic influenza vaccines to prevent influenza illness during the 2009--10 influenza season in the United States.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5844a5.htm?s_cid=mm5844a5_e

[Interim Guidance: Considerations Regarding 2009 H1N1 Influenza in Intrapartum and Postpartum Hospital Settings - November 10, 2009](#)

CDC's interim guidance has been updated to replace previously guidance entitled "Considerations Regarding Novel H1N1 Flu Virus in Obstetric Settings", dated July 6, 2009. This updated document clarifies clinical considerations related to management of suspected or confirmed maternal infection with 2009 H1N1 influenza virus infection within labor and delivery, postpartum, and newborn care settings in hospitals. A cautious approach to the management of ill mothers and their newborns is still recommended, but several options are provided based on hospital configuration, staffing, and surge capacity.

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/obstetric.htm>

[CDC Letter to Providers Promotes PPSV for Adults - November 10, 2009](#)

The letter urges providers to be sure all patients with indications have received the pneumococcal vaccine. Approximately 70 million persons with existing pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV) indications are unvaccinated (National Health Interview Survey, 2007). Pneumococcal infections are being found among fatal cases in both children and adults.

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/provider/lettertoprovider.htm>

Estimates of 2009 H1N1 Influenza Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths in the US, April – October 17, 2009 - November 12, 2009

CDC estimates that between 14 million and 34 million cases of 2009 H1N1 occurred between April and October 17, 2009 and that between about 63,000 and 153,000 2009 H1N1-related hospitalizations occurred. Between 2,500 and 6,000 2009 H1N1-related deaths occurred in that time period. http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/estimates_2009_h1n1.htm

U.S. Laboratory Confirmed Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations and Deaths from August 30 to November 7, 2009 - November 13, 2009

Laboratory confirmed H1N1 cases resulting in hospitalizations, as reported by States to CDC, total 22,364. Deaths from laboratory confirmed cases of H1N1 during this period total 877. <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/updates/us/#totalcases>

NEJM Article – Hospitalized Patients with 2009 H1N1 Influenza in US April-June 2009 - November 12, 2009

Nearly three quarters of patients hospitalized with confirmed H1N1 had one or more underlying medical conditions. Few severe illnesses were reported among persons 65 years of age or older. Patients seemed to benefit from antiviral therapy. <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/361/20/1935>

CDC/NIOSH Says Disputed Study Didn't Guide Advice on Masks - November 9, 2009

CDC has rejected a contention that its guidance on respiratory protection for healthcare workers caring for H1N1 patients was influenced by a recent controversial study. NIOSH issued a statement which said a recent Institute of Medicine (IOM) report that the CDC received before updating its recommendations on the topic did not rely on the study by Raina MacIntyre and colleagues of the University of New South Wales. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/h1n1flu/CDCresponse11-09-09.html>

FDA Vaccine Approvals - November 10, 2009

The FDA has approved the use of CSL Biotherapies' 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine in children aged 6 months through 17 years. The injectable vaccine was approved for adults in September. The formulation for children is available in thimerosal-free, single-dose syringes. <http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/ucm181975.htm>

GlaxoSmithKline received FDA approval of its pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine. The government has ordered 7.6 million doses of the unadjuvanted vaccine, and plans call for

shipping all the doses in December. The vaccine will be produced in multidose vials. The other four companies providing H1N1 vaccine to the US government received their FDA approvals in September. http://us.gsk.com/html/media-news/pressreleases/2009/2009_pressrelease_10129.htm

WHO Stresses Antiviral Treatment for High Risk Patients in Updated Guidance - *November 12, 2009*

The World Health Organization (WHO) strongly reaffirmed its advice about the importance of prompt antiviral treatment for high-risk patients. Growing clinical experience has given the WHO more confidence about the safety and effectiveness of antiviral drugs, primarily oseltamivir, in patients at risk for severe disease, especially pregnant women, small children, and people with chronic medical conditions.

http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/swineflu/clinical_management/en/index.html

Dear Healthcare Professional letter from FDA Commissioner - *November 10, 2009*

The letter addresses questions of vaccine safety and availability and outlines the processes that took the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine from creation to manufacture to distribution.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm189691.htm>