

Dear Parents,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the New Mexico Department of Health, and physicians recommend that all school children be vaccinated against H1N1 influenza (Swine Flu), and vaccine is arriving in New Mexico in sufficient numbers of doses to begin vaccinating all school children.

The New Mexico Department of Health is working with Albuquerque Public Schools to **provide students with H1N1 Influenza vaccine at school**. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity if your child has not yet received this important vaccination. We are planning clinics in all of the Albuquerque Public Schools in late January through February.

H1N1 Influenza vaccine comes in two forms: a nose spray and the shot. Both forms protect children well against the flu. If the nose spray form is available, children will be offered that vaccine, but a nurse will check if your child can get the spray based on the health questions you answer on the consent form. Children younger than ten years of age will need a second dose of H1N1 vaccine, and a second clinic will be scheduled at school a month later for those children who need the second dose.

If you wish to have your child vaccinated at school, you will need to read important information about the vaccine and complete a consent form. You may find these forms in English and Spanish on the APS website, or you may come to your child's school or instruct your child to pick up the forms at the school office. Please **completely fill out** and **sign** the consent form and **return to your school as soon as possible**. This signed form allows your child to receive two doses of H1N1 vaccine if appropriate.

H1N1 Influenza vaccine will be provided **at no cost to you**. We are collecting insurance information on this form, but the vaccine will be administered at no cost, regardless of insurance status.

Your child's school will notify you on the Website and through Parent Link when the school clinic date is set.

Together let's keep our children and our schools healthy and free from the flu!

Dear Parents,

Vaccine against H1N1 Influenza (Swine flu) is beginning to arrive in New Mexico. Doctors are recommending that all children 6 months through 18 years of age be vaccinated against H1N1 influenza.

The New Mexico Department of Health is working with your child's school to **provide children with H1N1 Influenza vaccine at school**, so you won't need to miss work. We will plan for clinics as soon as the H1N1 vaccine is available.

H1N1 influenza vaccine comes in two forms: a nose spray and the shot. Both forms protect children well against the flu. If the nose spray form is available, children will be offered that vaccine, but the nurse will check if your child can get the spray based on the health questions you answer on the permission form.

H1N1 Influenza vaccine will be **FREE**. Children younger than ten years of age will need a second dose of H1N1 vaccine. A second clinic may be held later in the season for children who need a second dose of flu vaccine.

Please **fill out** and **sign** the accompanying form and **return to your school as soon as possible**.

This signed form allows your child to receive two doses of H1N1 vaccine if appropriate. We are collecting insurance information on this form. If your child has insurance, we may seek to recover the costs of administering the vaccine through the insurance company. However, the vaccine will be administered at no cost, regardless of insurance status.

Together let's keep our children and our schools healthy and free from the flu!

If you have questions about the flu or flu vaccine, please call the H1N1 Hotline: 1-877- 304-4161.





H1N1 INFLUENZA (Swine Flu) IMMUNIZATION Public Health Division
School Consent Form (Please return to school)
 (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND FIRMLY, INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED)

Student's Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Gender: (M / F)
 Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____ Student ID: _____ Mother's Maiden Name: _____
 Current Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____
 Race: (circle one) AI/AN-Am Indian/Alaska Native A-Asian W- White B-Black O-Other Ethnicity: H – Hispanic NH – Non-Hisp

INSURANCE INFORMATION
 Medicaid/Salud (select): Pres Lovelace Molina Blue Cross/Blue Shield Policy # _____
 Private Insurance Co. _____ Policy # _____ Policy Holder's Name _____
 No Health Insurance Underinsured (Have commercial/private health insurance but coverage does not include vaccines, covers only selected vaccines, or insurance caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount.)

1. Is your child allergic to eggs? Yes No Don't Know
2. Has your child ever had Guillain-Barré syndrome (a type of temporary severe muscle weakness)? Yes No Don't Know
3. Has your child received a flu vaccination before? Yes No Don't Know
4. Has your child ever had a serious reaction to flu vaccine in the past? Yes No Don't Know
5. Has your child received any other vaccines in the past 4 weeks?..... Yes No Don't Know
 If yes, which one(s): _____ Date given: _____
6. Is your child allergic to gentamicin sulfate, gelatin or MSG? Yes No Don't Know
7. Does your child have asthma or other lung disease? Yes No Don't Know
8. Does your child have long-term health problems with heart disease? Yes No Don't Know
9. Does your child have kidney disease or renal dysfunction? Yes No Don't Know
10. Does your child have blood diseases (such as sickle cell anemia)? Yes No Don't Know
11. Does your child have diabetes? Yes No Don't Know
12. Is your child on long-term aspirin therapy? Yes No Don't Know
13. Does your child have a weakened immune system because of HIV/AIDS or another disease that affects the immune system, long term treatment with drugs such as steroids, or cancer treatment with x-rays or drugs? Yes No Don't Know
14. Is your child pregnant or planning to become pregnant in the next month? Yes No Don't Know
 Please list any allergies: _____

My child may receive H1N1 Influenza vaccine in whatever formulation is available and whatever is medically indicated.
 I do not want my child to receive any H1N1 flu vaccine at school, because: _____

I have been given a copy and have read, or have had explained to me, the information in the "Vaccine Information Statements" for H1N1 influenza and the H1N1 influenza vaccine. I have had a chance to ask questions that were answered to my satisfaction. I believe I understand the benefits and risks of the influenza vaccine requested and ask that the influenza vaccine be given to the person above for whom I am authorized to make the request. If the person above for whom I am authorized to make the request is less than 10 years old, I also request that a second dose of flu vaccine be given. I agree to report any problems that arise and direct any questions I may have to the school nurse.

I agree to allow information on this immunization given to the above-named person to be released to other medical care providers to avoid unnecessary vaccination or to ascertain immunization status. I also understand that my medical care provider may release this information to the state immunization registry (NMSIIS) unless I sign a document indicating my refusal.

Signature of parent/legal guardian _____ Date _____
 Print name of parent/legal guardian _____

FOR CLINIC USE (This section must be completed by the medical provider)

Vaccine	Date Vaccinated	Site of Injection/admin	Dose #	Vaccine Manufacturer	Lot Number	Provider Signature
2009 H1N1	/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> IM _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 0.25ml <input type="checkbox"/> 0.5 ml <input type="checkbox"/> Intranasal	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd	<input type="checkbox"/> MedImmune (nasal spray) <input type="checkbox"/> SanofiPasteur <input type="checkbox"/> GSK * <input type="checkbox"/> Novartis <input type="checkbox"/> CSL	Lot # _____	_____
2009 H1N1	/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> IM _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 0.25ml <input type="checkbox"/> 0.5 ml <input type="checkbox"/> Intranasal	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd	<input type="checkbox"/> MedImmune (nasal spray) <input type="checkbox"/> SanofiPasteur <input type="checkbox"/> GSK * <input type="checkbox"/> Novartis <input type="checkbox"/> CSL	Lot # _____	_____

* For 18 years and older only

Clinic ID# _____ NMSIIS entry completed

2009 H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE

INACTIVATED (the “flu shot”)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See <http://www.immunize.org/vis>.

1 What is 2009 H1N1 influenza?

2009 H1N1 influenza (also called Swine Flu) is caused by a new strain of influenza virus. It has spread to many countries.

Like other flu viruses, 2009 H1N1 spreads from person to person through coughing, sneezing, and sometimes through touching objects contaminated with the virus.

Signs of 2009 H1N1 can include:

- Fatigue
- Fever
- Sore Throat
- Muscle Aches
- Chills
- Coughing
- Sneezing

Some people also have diarrhea and vomiting.

Most people feel better within a week. But some people get pneumonia or other serious illnesses. Some people have to be hospitalized and some die.

2 How is 2009 H1N1 different from regular (seasonal) flu?

Seasonal flu viruses change from year to year, but they are closely related to each other.

People who have had flu infections in the past usually have some immunity to seasonal flu viruses (their bodies have built up some ability to fight off the viruses).

The 2009 H1N1 flu is a new flu virus. It is very different from seasonal flu viruses.

Most people have little or no immunity to 2009 H1N1 flu (their bodies are not prepared to fight off the virus).

3 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine

Vaccines are available to protect against 2009 H1N1 influenza.

- These vaccines are made just like seasonal flu vaccines.
- They are expected to be as safe and effective as seasonal flu vaccines.
- They will not prevent “influenza-like” illnesses caused by other viruses.
- They will not prevent seasonal flu. *You should also get seasonal influenza vaccine, if you want to be protected against seasonal flu.*

Inactivated vaccine (vaccine that has killed virus in it) is injected into the muscle, like the annual flu shot. **This sheet describes the inactivated vaccine.**

A **live, intranasal** vaccine (the nasal spray vaccine) is also available. It is described in a separate sheet.

Some inactivated 2009 H1N1 vaccine contains a preservative called thimerosal to keep it free from germs. Some people have suggested that thimerosal might be related to autism. In 2004 a group of experts at the Institute of Medicine reviewed many studies looking into this theory, and found no association between thimerosal and autism. Additional studies since then reached the same conclusion.

4 Who should get 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine and when?

WHO

Groups recommended to receive 2009 H1N1 vaccine first are:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for infants younger than 6 months of age
- Health care and emergency medical personnel
- Anyone from 6 months through 24 years of age
- Anyone from 25 through 64 years of age with certain chronic medical conditions or a weakened immune system

As more vaccine becomes available, these groups should also be vaccinated:

- Healthy 25 through 64 year olds
- Adults 65 years and older

The Federal government is providing this vaccine for receipt on a voluntary basis. However, state law or employers may require vaccination for certain persons.

WHEN

Get vaccinated as soon as the vaccine is available.

Children through 9 years of age should get **two doses** of vaccine, about a month apart. Older children and adults need only one dose.

5 Some people should not get the vaccine or should wait

You should not get 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine if you have a **severe (life-threatening) allergy to eggs**, or to **any other substance in the vaccine**. *Tell the person giving you the vaccine if you have any severe allergies.*

Also tell them if you have ever had:

- a life-threatening allergic reaction after a dose of seasonal flu vaccine,
- Guillain Barré Syndrome (a severe paralytic illness also called GBS).

These may not be reasons to avoid the vaccine, but the medical staff can help you decide.

If you are moderately or severely ill, you might be advised to wait until you recover before getting the vaccine. If you have a mild cold or other illness, there is usually no need to wait.

Pregnant or breastfeeding women can get inactivated 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine.

Inactivated 2009 H1N1 vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines, including seasonal influenza vaccine.

6 What are the risks from 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine?

A vaccine, like any medicine, could cause a serious problem, such as a severe allergic reaction. But the risk of any vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

The virus in inactivated 2009 H1N1 vaccine has been killed, so you cannot get influenza from the vaccine.

The risks from inactivated 2009 H1N1 vaccine are similar to those from seasonal inactivated flu vaccine:

Mild problems:

- soreness, redness, tenderness, or swelling where the shot was given
- fainting (mainly adolescents)
- headache, muscle aches
- fever
- nausea

If these problems occur, they usually begin soon after the shot and last 1-2 days.

Severe problems:

- Life-threatening allergic reactions to vaccines are very rare. If they do occur, it is usually within a few minutes to a few hours after the shot.
- In 1976, an earlier type of swine flu vaccine was associated with cases of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS). Since then, flu vaccines have not been clearly linked to GBS.

7 What if there is a severe reaction?

What should I look for?

Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or behavior changes. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

What should I do?

- **Call** a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- **Tell** the doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- **Ask** your provider to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS website at <http://www.vaers.hhs.gov>, or by calling **1-800-822-7967**.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

8 Vaccine injury compensation

If you or your child has a reaction to the vaccine, your ability to sue is limited by law.

However, a federal program has been created to help pay for the medical care and other specific expenses of certain persons who have a serious reaction to this vaccine. For more information about this program, call **1-888-275-4772** or visit the program's website at: <http://www.hrsa.gov/countermeasurescomp/default.htm>.

9 How can I learn more?

- Ask your provider. They can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
 - Visit CDC's website at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu> or <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>
- Visit the web at <http://www.flu.gov>



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



2009 H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE

LIVE, ATTENUATED
(the nasal spray vaccine)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See <http://www.immunize.org/vis>.

1 What is 2009 H1N1 influenza?

2009 H1N1 influenza (sometimes called Swine Flu) is caused by a new strain of influenza virus. It has spread to many countries.

Like other flu viruses, 2009 H1N1 spreads from person to person through coughing, sneezing, and sometimes through touching objects contaminated with the virus.

Signs of 2009 H1N1 can include:

- Fatigue
- Fever
- Sore Throat
- Muscle Aches
- Chills
- Coughing
- Sneezing

Some people also have diarrhea and vomiting.

Most people feel better within a week. But some people get pneumonia or other serious illnesses. Some people have to be hospitalized and some die.

2 How is 2009 H1N1 different from regular (seasonal) flu?

Seasonal flu viruses change from year to year, but they are closely related to each other.

People who have had flu infections in the past usually have some immunity to seasonal flu viruses (their bodies have built up some ability to fight off the viruses).

The 2009 H1N1 flu virus is a new virus strain. It is very different from seasonal flu viruses.

Most people have little or no immunity to 2009 H1N1 flu (their bodies are not prepared to fight off the virus).

3 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine

Vaccines are available to protect against 2009 H1N1 influenza.

- These vaccines are made just like seasonal flu vaccines.
- They are expected to be as safe and effective as seasonal flu vaccines.
- They will not prevent “influenza-like” illnesses caused by other viruses.

- They will not prevent seasonal flu. *You should also get seasonal influenza vaccine, if you want protection from seasonal flu.*

Live, attenuated intranasal vaccine (or LAIV) is sprayed into the nose. **This sheet describes the live, attenuated intranasal vaccine.**

An **inactivated** vaccine is also available, which is given as a shot. It is described in a separate sheet.

The 2009 H1N1 LAIV does not contain thimerosal or other preservatives. It is licensed for people from 2 through 49 years of age.

The vaccine virus is attenuated (weakened) so it will not cause illness.

4 Who should get 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine and when?

WHO

LAIV is approved for people from 2 through 49 years of age who are not pregnant and do not have certain health conditions (see number 5 below). Groups recommended to receive 2009 H1N1 LAIV first are healthy people who:

- are from 2 through 24 years of age,
- are from 25 through 49 years of age and
 - live with or care for infants younger than 6 months of age, or
 - are health care or emergency medical personnel.

As more vaccine becomes available, other healthy 25 through 49 year olds should also be vaccinated.

Note: While certain groups should not get LAIV – for example pregnant women, people with long-term health problems, and children from 6 months to 2 years of age – it is important that they be vaccinated. They should get the flu shot.

The Federal government is providing this vaccine for receipt on a voluntary basis. However, state law or employers may require vaccination for certain persons.

WHEN

Get vaccinated as soon as the vaccine is available.

Children through 9 years of age should get **two doses** of vaccine, about a month apart. Older children and adults need only one dose.

5 Some people should not get the vaccine or should wait

You should not get 2009 H1N1 LAIV if you have a **severe (life-threatening) allergy** to **eggs**, or to **any other substance in the vaccine**. *Tell the person giving you the vaccine if you have any severe allergies.*

2009 H1N1 LAIV should not be given to the following groups.

- children younger than 2 and adults 50 years and older
- pregnant women,
- anyone with a weakened immune system,
- anyone with a long-term health problem such as
 - heart disease - kidney or liver disease
 - lung disease - metabolic disease such as diabetes
 - asthma - anemia and other blood disorders
- children younger than 5 years with asthma or one or more episodes of wheezing during the past year,
- anyone with certain muscle or nerve disorders (such as cerebral palsy) that can lead to breathing or swallowing problems,
- anyone in close contact with a person with a *severely* weakened immune system (requiring care in a protected environment, such as a bone marrow transplant unit),
- children or adolescents on long-term aspirin treatment.

If you are moderately or severely ill, you might be advised to wait until you recover before getting the vaccine. If you have a mild cold or other illness, there is usually no need to wait.

Tell your doctor if you ever had:

- a life-threatening allergic reaction after a dose of seasonal flu vaccine,
- Guillain-Barré syndrome (a severe paralytic illness also called GBS).

These may not be reasons to avoid the vaccine, but the medical staff can help you decide.

2009 H1N1 LAIV may be given at the same time as most other vaccines. Tell your doctor if you got any other vaccines within the past month or plan to get any within the next month. H1N1 LAIV and seasonal LAIV should not be given together.

6 What are the risks from 2009 H1N1 LAIV?

A vaccine, like any medicine, could cause a serious problem, such as a severe allergic reaction. But the risk of any vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

The risks from 2009 H1N1 LAIV are expected to be similar to those from seasonal LAIV:

Mild problems:

Some children and adolescents 2-17 years of age have reported mild reactions, including:

- runny nose, nasal congestion or cough
- fever
- headache and muscle aches
- wheezing
- abdominal pain or occasional vomiting or diarrhea

Some adults 18-49 years of age have reported:

- runny nose or nasal congestion
- sore throat
- cough, chills, tiredness/weakness
- headache

Severe problems:

- Life-threatening allergic reactions to vaccines are very rare. If they do occur, it is usually within a few minutes to a few hours after the vaccination.
- In 1976, an earlier type of inactivated swine flu vaccine was associated with cases of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS). LAIV has not been linked to GBS.

7 What if there is a severe reaction?

What should I look for?

Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or behavior changes. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

What should I do?

- **Call** a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.
- **Tell** the doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.
- **Ask** your provider to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS website at <http://www.vaers.hhs.gov>, or by calling **1-800-822-7967**.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

8 Vaccine injury compensation

If you or your child has a reaction to the vaccine, your ability to sue is limited by law.

However, a federal program has been created to help pay for the medical care and other specific expenses of certain persons who have a serious reaction to this vaccine. For more information about this program, call **1-888-275-4772** or visit the program's website at:

<http://www.hrsa.gov/countermeasurescomp/default.htm>.

9 How can I learn more?

- Ask your provider. They can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information.
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