April 2010

H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Informational Message

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) recommends that providers continue vaccinating children and adults against both the H1N1 and Seasonal influenza vaccine until the vaccine expires or it is no longer available.

Influenza activity has occurred in waves during past pandemics, and New York State may still experience a third wave or localized H1N1 influenza outbreaks in communities that have been less affected by illness, or where vaccination rates have been lower than in other regions. It is important for your patients to get vaccinated against influenza to be prepared if activity increases again before the Fall. Please bear in mind that children less than ten years old must receive two doses at least one month apart to be considered fully immunized.

If an insurance company does not reimburse for the influenza vaccine or administration thereof, providers should contact the New York State Insurance Department via their website using the following link,

https://awebproxyprd.ins.state.ny.us/onepage/StartForm.jsp?link=/ciims_forms/StartForm.jsp.

Also, remember to report your doses administered and wasted into one of the following systems:

- 1) Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System (Telephone Reporting) 1-888-H1N1-VAC (1-888-416-1822)
 - To report doses administered to adults (ages 19 and older).
- 2) H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Online Reporting System (Web-based Reporting) https://apps.nyhealth.gov/doh2/applinks/h1n1resp/dosrep/
 - To report doses administered to adults (ages 19 and older).
- 3) New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) http://www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/immunization/information_system/
 - **Required** to report doses administered to children (ages 18 and younger) and may also be used to report doses administered to adults (ages 19 and older).

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this vaccination campaign.