

IMMUNIZATION UPDATE



Capital Health

Public Health Services
7 Mellor Avenue, Unit #5
Dartmouth, NS B3B 0E8

Tel # (902) 481-5800
Fax # (902) 481-5923

September 25, 2009

Dear Family Practice Colleagues:

As follow-up to the letter from our Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Strang, today, **please be advised of the following changes to our Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program for this fall.** These changes are in light of the H1N1 Pandemic, the introduction of a new Influenza H1N1 vaccine and additional factors outlined in Dr. Strang's letter.

For this fall, **Seasonal Influenza vaccine** will be available for the following two groups ONLY:

- Residents of Long-term Care
- People 65 years and over

H1N1 vaccine is anticipated to be available in November. Details on how the H1N1 vaccine will be delivered are still being finalized.

Consideration for offering Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for all other high-risk groups will be reviewed following the delivery of H1N1.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine will be available the week of October 5th. Please note:

- **If you have already ordered your seasonal influenza vaccine**, you will be contacted by public health staff early next week to revise your order. Please indicate the number of packages required based on only providing the vaccine to those individuals over the age of 65 years.
- **If you have not placed your order for vaccine**, please complete the attached vaccine order form, and indicate the number of packages required based on only providing the vaccine to those individuals over the age of 65 years. Please fax your order to 481-5923.

I hope this proves helpful, and thank you for your ongoing commitment to this work.

Sincerely,

Noella Whelan BN RN
Immunization Coordinator, Public Health Services

Healthy People, Healthy Communities