

New Jersey Dept. of Health and Senior Services
Public Information – Update 24

Date: December 4, 2009

Time: 2:30 PM

H1N1 Influenza and Vaccination Program

H1N1 VACCINE

[NEW] It looks like H1N1 is over. Should people still get vaccinated?

In past flu pandemics, "waves" of activity have been observed over a year or so after a new flu virus appears, with each wave lasting 6-12 weeks. The US experienced its first wave of 2009 H1N1 flu in the spring of 2009 and now the second wave is winding down. Additional waves of H1N1 may occur as well as outbreaks of seasonal flu. Because the timing and spread of flu viruses are unpredictable, the CDC is continuing to recommend vaccination with seasonal flu vaccine and 2009 H1N1 vaccine for those people for whom it is recommended.

ANTIVIRALS

[UPDATED] If I took influenza antiviral drugs after getting vaccinated, do I need to be revaccinated?

If a person takes antiviral drugs **within** two weeks of getting the nasal mist (live) flu vaccine, that person should get revaccinated. (The antiviral drugs will have killed the vaccine viruses that are supposed to cause the immune response against those viruses.) Antiviral drugs can be taken with the inactivated (killed) flu vaccine.

ADDITIONAL H1N1 INFORMATION / RESOURCES

Where can I learn more?

The CDC website will be providing daily updates regarding the status of this flu investigation in the US. They also have information posted such as questions and answers regarding Novel Influenza A (H1N1).

The web address is: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

For NJ information, go to: <http://www.nj.gov/health/flu/h1n1/>