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NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE

NEVADA PLACES ORDER FOR THE FIRST, LIMITED SUPPLY OF THE NEW H1N1 VACCINE

The first shipment of the new vaccine will be the MedImmune "Flu Mist"

Carson City – The Nevada State Health Division announced today that the first order for one of the new H1N1 vaccines, manufactured by MedImmune, has been ordered. The first initial shipment is expected to amount to a little over 28,000 doses. The amount is based upon state population and as more vaccine becomes available, more doses will continue to be ordered.

Because the first shipment is limited, the doses will be given to the local public health authorities for distribution. The allotment for each local public health authority is based upon the population of their respective jurisdictions.

"It's important to remember that 'flu mist' can only be administered to healthy people, 2-49 years of age and it is not for pregnant women," State Health Officer Tracey D. Green said. "This type of vaccine contains live attenuated virus that is sprayed into the nostril. Based upon clinical trial information, this H1N1 vaccine is expected to act very much like the regular flu mist."

While this first shipment is very limited in quantity, additional shipments are expected to continue to be ordered, received and administered on a weekly basis. This will be a coordinated response between private providers, pharmacies and public health. The H1N1 vaccine given via a shot is expected to be available middle to end of October. The initial target groups for receiving the new H1N1 vaccines are:

- **Pregnant women** because they are at higher risk of complications and can potentially provide protection to infants who cannot be vaccinated;
- **Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age** because younger infants are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and cannot be vaccinated. Vaccination of those in close contact with infants less than 6 months old might help protect infants by "cocooning" them from the virus;
- **Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel** because infections among healthcare workers have been reported and this can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism in this population could reduce healthcare system capacity;



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- **All people from 6 months through 24 years of age**
- **Children from 6 months through 18 years of age** because we have seen many cases of novel H1N1 influenza in children and they are in close contact with each other in school and day care settings, which increases the likelihood of disease spread, and
- **Young adults 19 through 24 years of age** because we have seen many cases of novel H1N1 influenza in these healthy young adults and they often live, work, and study in close proximity, and they are a frequently mobile population; and,
- **Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.**

The new H1N1 flu vaccines have been licensed by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). People over the age of 10 will only need one vaccination. Children nine years and younger will need two vaccinations, one initial dose and a booster 21-28 days after receiving the first vaccine.

As more vaccine is available and the majority of the target groups have been vaccinated, the other groups, such as people over the age of 65, will be able to receive a vaccination.

REMEMBER, get your seasonal flu vaccine NOW!

For more information go to: <http://flu.nv.gov>

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