

DPH School Health Unit Weekly Email Updates 11/13/09

We know that these are difficult times for many of you--not only with the H1N1, but with the 9C cuts. Again, we hope you will support each other---we at the Department did not wish to reduce anyone's funding. We have heard from many school nurses expressing support for the school districts that sustained cuts. We want to make sure all the nurse leaders from the original 80 grants are welcomed to the meetings---and we will continue to maintain our communication systems. Some of you who sustained reductions have indicated that you will be sending the data as usual---we are grateful for that.

It is time for all of you to keep everyone informed of the children's needs for professional school nursing services---so vital to the health and education of our young people. Thank you.

1. H1N1 Updates--- We are learning of many school and community based immunization clinics as the vaccine supplies increase---we are also learning of increased ILI in the Massachusetts schools--thanks for all you do to assist in the infection control efforts. I hope that soon we will not need to start each e-mail with H1N1 updates.....

IMPORTANT: Whenever you are doing a flu clinic in the schools, involving school nurses--could you please send me the date and anticipated number of students---and if it is H1N1 or seasonal---and anything else you want to share with the H1N1 Steering Committee--many thanks; also if you have already done one, would you please send me this information---just a few sentences. (I am following my own advice about sharing information!)

A. Formulations of H1N1: The FDA has approved CSL formulations of H1N1 vaccine down to 6 months of age. Previously, CSL formulations were approved only for those 18 years of age and older. FDA has also approved a 0.25 mL formulation of CSL H1N1 vaccine in pre-filled syringes, which will be available at a later date.

If you have doses of the CSL formulations now, you may use them for any age group 6 months of age and older. Please see the revised package insert at:

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM182401.pdf>

We have revised the inactivated 2009 H1N1 vaccine standing orders to reflect this change. Please see attached.

Changes to the original Inactivated 2009 H1N1 Model Standing Orders dated September 2009:

- Removal of the footnote to Table 3, which allowed for off-label use of inactivated H1N1 influenza vaccine formulation for age groups other than those for which they were approved by FDA.
- Change in approved age groups for CSL formulation of inactivated H1N1 vaccine. FDA has approved the use of CSL formulations of H1N1 vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older, and a 0.25 mL formulation prefilled syringes. See Table 3.

Please note the 0.5 mL prefilled syringes of the CSL inactivated H1N1 should only be used for children and adults 3 years of age and older. The CSL multi-dose vials of H1N1 vaccine can be used for everyone 6 months of age and older: 0.25 mL dose for those 6 – 35 months of age and 0.5 mL dose for those 3 years of age and older.

Donna Lazorik, RN, MS, Adult Immunization Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, 617-983-6821
MDPH Flu Website: www.mass.gov/dph/flu

B. Question regarding Consent: We got a question from a local health dept. last week about whether people other than a child's parent/guardian could consent to a child's being vaccinated at a public clinic. This would include relatives such as grandparents, etc. and even neighbors who might be bringing several children to a clinic. After conferring with Howard Saxner, I developed the attached statement that such people should sign, along with the consent form itself. The local health department can put this statement on their own letterhead if they wish.

Priscilla Fox, Deputy General Counsel, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, 250 Washington St., Boston, MA 02108
Website: www.mass.gov/dph Blog: <http://publichealth.blog.state.ma.us>

C. Questions about Vaccine Orders, Allocation Amounts, Reporting of Doses, etc

Friendly URL for this page: <http://www.mass.gov/dph/h1n1registration>

D. The Contracted School Nurse Coordinator for Infectious Disease Response has been published.

Posting ID: J19571; Position Number: 178302; Agency: Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education - formerly DOE; Official Title: Medical Consultants; Functional Title: School Nurse Coordinator for Infectious Disease Response

View this job at https://jobs.hrd.state.ma.us/recruit/public/3111/job/job_view.do?postingId=J19571 Please share this information with all interested parties.

John L. G. Bynoe III, Associate Commissioner, MA. Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education, 75 Pleasant St., Malden, MA. 02148, (781) 338 - 6300 (office), (781) 338 - 3399 (fax), (617) 413 - 4958 (cell)

2. Curricula on Sexual Violence Prevention: The middle school based curricula recommended by our State Sexual Violence Prevention Plan are Safe-T (grades 6-8) available from Prevent Child Abuse Vermont and SafeDates (grades 8-9) available from Hazeldon. SafeDates is used by a number of districts with their Safe and Drug Free Schools grants from DESE (formerly DOE) because it is the only evidence-based curriculum currently available on sexual assault and teen dating violence that fits the SDFS grant criteria. Many of the DPH-funded rape crisis centers and related domestic violence programs were trained in the use of the Safe-T and SafeDates curricula last spring.

You may also be interested in **Flirting or Hurting? A Teacher's Guide to Student-to-Student Sexual Harassment in Schools from the Wellesley College Centers for Research on Women at** <http://www.transformcommunities.org/tctatsite/tools/tflirtorhurt.html> .

The links for more information on the curricula are at:

SAFE-T: <http://www.hazelden.org/web/go/safedates>

http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/programfulldetails.asp?PROGRAM_ID=84

http://www.csss.org/doc/SafeDates_2PageFactSheet.pdf

Safe Dates: <http://www.pcavt.org/index.asp?pageid=319>

Please let us know if you need more information,

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Blog: <http://publichealth.blog.state.ma.us> MA Sexual Violence Prevention Plan:

http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/com_health/violence/sv_prevention_plan.pdf

Attachments:

Part 1: 1. Revised standing orders 2. Relative's consent 3. H1N1 Situation report

4. Paramedic vaccinators 5. Sample MOU between school and board of health

6. Obesity and H1N1 7. vaccination of swine workers

Part 2: 8. College flyer on LTAs 9. Child abuse training 10. Inhalant abuse training

11. Reduction of violence report 12. Nominations for Suicide Prevention

13. Additional Updates with Many Reports and Studies