



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
LANSING

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TO: Medical Control Authorities

FROM: Robin M. Shivley, Manager  
EMS and Trauma Systems Section

RE: State Protocols Related to H1N1 and Immunizations

The Department, in collaboration with the Quality Assurance Task Force, have developed two model protocols related to H1N1 and Immunizations. The first protocol addresses Suspected H1N1 Influenza. The purpose of this protocol is to develop a standard approach to patients suspected of H1N1; enhance awareness and protection of responders; address prehospital care to patients; maximize supplies that may become limited; and address cleaning of vehicles after transporting a suspected H1N1 patient.

The Department is strongly recommending that each MCA adopt the Suspected H1N1 Influenza Protocol and provide this critical information to your life support agencies.

The second protocol is an EMS Immunization Procedure which allows Paramedics to provide vaccinations for seasonal influenza and H1N1.

If you have agencies that are assisting local health departments in administering the seasonal and/or H1N1 Influenza vaccination, we would encourage you to adopt the state protocol. If your agencies will not be assisting with vaccinations, it is not necessary to adopt this protocol.

To adopt either of these protocols, please submit a letter to the Department stating that you are adopting the protocol as written. This will not need to go through the Department's 60 day review process as the protocols have already been approved. To make this process as smooth as possible, a letter can be sent by email to Linda Nesbitt at: [nesbittl@michigan.gov](mailto:nesbittl@michigan.gov). A letter of approval will be sent back via email.

In addition to the two protocols, I have included (with the Suspected H1N1 Influenza Protocol) the most up-to-date Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance document. To keep informed on the ever changing guidance related to H1N1, I encourage you to periodically review the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance>

Also, as you may know, the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness, applied for and received supplemental funding for pandemic influenza preparedness. The application included funding for the Medical Control Authorities (MCAs) to prepare/plan for H1N1.

The primary purpose of this funding is to improve the healthcare systems' ability to develop and implement activities in preparation for a pandemic. Funding allocated to the MCAs should be used to support their life support agencies (LSA). MCAs should work with their LSAs to determine the best approach for maximizing the benefit for the intended use. MCAs within a region can choose to consolidate funding, for example for joint purchases to get volume discounts. The Regions should oversee the funding and provide support as needed but should not restrict the use of funds beyond these directions.

Funding for the life support agencies should be used to support the development of executable operational plans specifically related to pandemic preparedness. This can include the development of, and training in, an organizational continuity of operations plan. Additional allowable activities include:

- H1N1 vaccination of personnel
- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
- Supplies to support the cleaning of vehicles and equipment contained within. The purchase of equipment such as commercial units designed to clean the interior of an ambulance is not allowed with this funding.
- Training of EMS personnel, including infection control principles
- Training of dispatch personnel (focus on triage)
- Equipment to maintain emergency services and transfers (e.g., EMS ventilators, CPAP, pulse oximetry, etc.)

Funding cannot be used for staff costs (salary/wages).

Questions on whether a certain activity is allowed can be directed to me at ([rmshivl@michigan.gov](mailto:rmshivl@michigan.gov)).

Finally, the Department, in collaboration with the Michigan Association of Ambulance Services, Fire Chiefs, IC Society and Emergency Physicians is developing an educational tool for all EMS providers related to H1N1. There will be multiple avenues in which you can receive the education. As the educational tool is completed, information will be distributed on how it can be accessed.