
Standing Orders for Administering Influenza A (H1N1) 2009 Monovalent Vaccines

Purpose: To reduce morbidity and mortality from pandemic influenza A (H1N1) 2009 virus infection by vaccinating all children and adults who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Policy: Under these standing orders, eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals (e.g., pharmacists), where allowed by state law, may vaccinate children and adults who meet any of the criteria below.

Procedure:

1. Unless local or state conditions and/or vaccine availability specify otherwise, identify children and adults in need of influenza A (H1N1) 2009 monovalent vaccination based on the following priority groups (group a, then b, then c):
 - a. i. Age 6 months through 24 years
 - ii. Age 25 through 64 years with any of the following conditions: chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (excluding hypertension), renal, hepatic, cognitive, neurologic/neuromuscular, hematologic, or metabolic (e.g., diabetes) disorders; immunosuppression, including that caused by medications or HIV; long-term aspirin therapy (applies to a child or adolescent age 6 months through 18 years)
 - iii. Being pregnant during the influenza season
 - iv. All healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
 - v. All adults, children, and teens who are household contacts or caregivers of infants younger than age 6 months.
 - b. All other (e.g., healthy) adults ages 25 through 64 years
 - c. Adults ages 65 years and older
2. Screen all patients for contraindications and precautions to influenza vaccine:
 - a. **Contraindications:** serious reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after ingesting eggs or after receiving a previous dose of influenza vaccine or an influenza vaccine component. For a list of vaccine components, go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/excipient-table-2.pdf. Do not give live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV; nasal spray) to pregnant women; children younger than age 2 years; children age 2 through 4 years who have experienced wheezing or asthma within the past 12 months, based on a healthcare provider's statement; children or adults with any of the conditions described in 1.a.ii. above, or to children or adults who received seasonal LAIV at any time within the preceding 4 weeks, including the date of the current visit;
 - b. **Precautions:** moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever; history of Guillain-Barré syndrome within 6 weeks of a previous influenza vaccination; for LAIV only, close contact with an immunosuppressed person when the person requires protective isolation.
 3. Provide all patients (or, in the case of a minor, their parent or legal representative) with a copy of the most current federal Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). You must document in the patient's medical record or office log, the publication date of the VIS and the date it was given to the patient (parent/legal representative). Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy of the VIS in their native language, if available and preferred; these can be found at www.immunize.org/vis.
 4. Administer injectable inactivated H1N1 vaccine intramuscularly in the vastus lateralis for infants (and toddlers lacking adequate deltoid mass) or in the deltoid muscle (for older children, and adults). Use a 22–25 g needle. Choose needle length appropriate to the person's age and body mass: infants 6 through 11 mos: 1"; 1 through 2 yrs: 1–1¼"; 3 yrs and older: 1–1½". Give 0.25 mL for children 6–35 months and 0.5 mL for all others age 3 years and older. (Note: A ⅝" needle may be used for patients weighing less than 130 lbs (<60kg) for injection in the deltoid muscle *only* if the skin is stretched tight, subcutaneous tissue is not bunched, and the injection is made at a 90-degree angle.) Alternatively, healthy, non-pregnant persons ages 2 through 49 years may be given 0.2 mL of intranasal H1N1 LAIV; 0.1 mL is sprayed into each nostril while the patient is in an upright position. Give a second dose of H1N1 vaccine 4 weeks after the first dose to children through 9 years of age.
 5. Document each patient's vaccine administration information and follow up in the following places:
 - a. **Medical chart:** Record the date the vaccine was administered, the manufacturer and lot number, the vaccination site and route, and the name and title of the person administering the vaccine.
 - b. **Personal immunization record card:** Record the date of vaccination and the name/location of the administering clinic.
 6. Be prepared for management of a medical emergency related to the administration of vaccine by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications.
 7. Report all adverse reactions to novel H1N1 influenza vaccine to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) at www.vaers.hhs.gov or (800) 822-7967. VAERS report forms are available at www.vaers.hhs.gov.

This policy and procedure shall remain in effect for all patients of the _____ until rescinded or until _____ (date).
(name of practice or clinic)

Medical Director's signature: _____ Effective date: _____