

Saskatchewan flu clinics rollout

Update: see www.health.gov.sk.ca/flu for revised dates and risk groups (Nov. 2, 2009)

Week of Oct. 19:

- Regional health authorities will now offer *seasonal* vaccine to all at risk populations
- Saskatchewan Health distributes pandemic H1N1 vaccine to RHAs, which in turn distribute to their offices in the region.
- Training of public health nurses in the new vaccine.

Week of Oct. 26 (depending on vaccine authorization)

- **Health Care Workers**, particularly those who are directly involved in influenza assessment or treatment and are therefore at greater risk of being infected at work

Weeks of Nov. 2 and Nov. 9

- Beginning of Pandemic H1N1 flu clinics, targeted to highest risk groups:
 - A. People with underlying medical conditions** such as obesity, heart and lung diseases, chronic conditions such as diabetes, and other medical issues that may compromise the person's ability to fight infection and avoid complications.
 - B. People whose living conditions expose them to greater risk of disease;** this can include people living in core neighborhood areas with poor housing, people with mental illness, and others.
 - C. Pregnant women**, particularly those in the second or third trimesters of their terms.
 - D. People living in remote and isolated communities**, where poor living conditions contribute to higher rates of infection and complications.
 - E. First Nations and Métis populations**, which tend to have higher numbers of individuals in the above categories.
 - F. Children six months to five years old.**

Seasonal influenza vaccinations will cease when RHAs commence mass immunization clinics. The mass immunization clinics will begin when sufficient vaccine is available.

Week of Nov. 16 (depending on receipt of vaccine) and following weeks until complete:

- Pandemic H1N1 flu clinics opened to all public (and we encourage all Saskatchewan people to show up).
- Second Pandemic H1N1 immunization for children from six months to 10 years.