



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Thomas Farley, MD, MPH  
Commissioner

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc  
Assistant Commissioner  
Bureau of Immunization

2 Lafayette Street, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

August 27, 2010

Dear Colleague:

This is an update on the availability and distribution of seasonal influenza vaccine through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. The initial distribution of vaccine has begun. To date, we have been allocated approximately 13% of our total influenza vaccine order by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We are shipping partial orders to ensure that all VFC providers receive some vaccine. You should start to vaccinate your patients as soon as you receive vaccine. The majority of vaccine we have been allocated is either multi-dose vials or live attenuated intranasal vaccine; a smaller amount of 0.5 ml pre-filled syringes or single doses vials have been received. We have not yet been allocated any 0.25 ml pre-filled syringes of influenza vaccine. As soon as this vaccine product becomes available, we will place orders for this product.

If you have not yet placed your VFC order, we urge you to do so. We also remind you that VFC influenza vaccine can be ordered online through the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR) Online Registry. To order vaccine online, please go to [www.nyc.gov/health/cir](http://www.nyc.gov/health/cir) and log on to the Online Registry. Select the VFC icon on the CIR toolbar and tab on 'Order VFC Vaccine' to place your order. You may also fax your influenza order to 212-676-2314 (see attached order form).

There is still influenza vaccine available for purchase. For providers who need to order vaccine for their private patients, either for children or adults, a list of vaccine manufacturers and distributors is available at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/flu/downloads/pdf/providers/flu-vac-ordering-form.pdf>.

All providers administering any vaccine to children less than 19 years of age in New York City must report to the CIR. We encourage you to also report vaccinations administered to adults which can be done with the patient's consent.

For further information about influenza, please visit [www.nyc.gov/flu](http://www.nyc.gov/flu). If you have any questions about your vaccine order, ordering vaccine or CIR reporting, please e-mail us at [nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov).

We thank you for making every effort to vaccinate your patients against influenza this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane R. Zucker'.

Jane R. Zucker, M.D., M.Sc.