



## **Important News from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) August 10, 2010**

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### **2010-2011 Influenza Vaccine to be Available Soon from VFC**

CDC informed SAMHD that two (2) influenza vaccine manufacturers (Sanofi Pasteur and MedImmune) began shipping influenza orders to provider offices, clinics, distributors, and other health care settings. In addition, CDC has started allocating limited doses of federal influenza vaccine to Metro Health. In line with CDC recommendations to start immunizing patients with flu vaccine as soon as possible, the VFC program will be placing orders for provider shipments within the next week. These early orders will be based on the vaccines that were requested on your March 2010 prebook form, and the doses allocated to Metro Health from CDC. Influenza vaccine will be sent from the manufacturers to the distributor in increments beginning in August. Based on this process, it is likely that not all providers will receive vaccine at the same time nor will the total number of doses in all preparation be shipped together.

### **2010-2011 Influenza VIS**

The 2010-11 Influenza VIS should be ready within the next week. A special ACIP session was held on Thursday, August 5, and could affect influenza recommendations. The 2010-2011 influenza VISs will be posted within several working days after this meeting. Although the new VIS for TIV and LAIV products is not yet available, it is acceptable to go ahead and vaccinate without the new VIS. CDC recommends that until a product's VIS became available, it is acceptable to use the package insert, and any other relevant information from the manufacturer, FDA, etc to educate the patient before immunization. Last years VIS might also be used for reference. This year's product contains the same H1N1 (A strain) and B strains as last year, but the other A strain is new. All VIS will be available for download from the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>

### **Summary of influenza vaccination recommendations, 2010-2011**

1. All persons aged  $\geq 6$  months should be vaccinated annually.
2. Protection of persons at higher risk for influenza-related complications should continue to be a focus of vaccination efforts as providers and programs transition to routine vaccination of all persons aged  $\geq 6$  months.
3. As in previous recommendations, all children aged 6 months–8 years who receive a seasonal influenza vaccine for the first time should receive 2 doses. Children who received only 1 dose of a seasonal influenza vaccine in the first influenza season that they received vaccine should receive 2 doses, rather than 1, in the following influenza season. In addition, for the 2010–11 influenza season, children aged 6 months–8 years who did not receive at least 1 dose of an influenza A (H1N1) 2009 monovalent vaccine should receive 2 doses of a 2010–11 seasonal influenza vaccine, regardless of previous influenza vaccination history. Children aged 6 months–8 years for whom the previous 2009–10 seasonal or influenza A (H1N1) 2009 monovalent vaccine history cannot be determined should receive 2 doses of a 2010–11 seasonal influenza vaccine.

For more information on the administration of the influenza vaccine, consult the vaccine manufacturer's package insert included with your influenza vaccine. *The 2010-2011 Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines* is available at the CDC MMWR site:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5908a1.htm?s\\_cid=rr5908a1\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5908a1.htm?s_cid=rr5908a1_w)

If you have vaccine ordering questions, please contact Anthony Johnson, Vaccine Manager at 207-4015. For other VFC questions, please contact Kenya Wilson, VFC Program Coordinator at 207-3974.