



November 16, 2009

Province's H1N1 vaccine program expands to more Albertans

Seniors next to receive vaccine

Edmonton... Starting Tuesday, November 17, Alberta's H1N1 immunization program will expand to include all seniors over 75 years of age as of November 1, as well as their spouses or partners of any age.

On Thursday, November 19, immunizations for seniors will further expand to include those 65 years and older as of November 1, and will include their spouses or partners of any age.

In addition, previously announced highest risk groups will continue to be eligible. They include:

- All children over six months and under five years (as of November 1);
- pregnant women;
- people with chronic conditions aged 5 to 64 (as of November 1); and,
- household contacts and caregivers of people who cannot be immunized (infants under six months of age and individuals with suppressed immune systems);
- first responders including firefighters, police and provincial peace officers; and,
- frontline health care workers.

When more vaccine becomes available from the manufacturer, the targeted immunization program will be expanded to include more groups.

All Albertans who want to be immunized will have that opportunity when increased supply of the vaccine arrives from the manufacturer. To ensure the vaccine can be provided to the highest risk groups at this time, no exceptions to the identified priority groups can be allowed.

For the most current information on the targeted vaccination campaign, including dates, clinic locations, a list of chronic conditions for high-risk groups and groups being vaccinated, go to: www.albertahealthservices.ca

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