

TYPES OF H1N1 VACCINE

2009 novel H1N1 influenza vaccine is currently being produced in three different formulations. Each is licensed for use for a particular group of people. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has made recommendations about which groups of the population should be vaccinated first. Individual counties in Missouri may further narrow the priority group in their community, depending on the amount of vaccine available to them.

Injectable H1N1 flu shot:

- For people 3 years old and older with or without chronic medical conditions
- Not for people who are allergic to eggs or components of the vaccine
- Most common form
- Comes in multi-dose vials
- Given in the muscle, usually the upper arm
- Contains a dead flu virus and does not cause flu illness

Preservative-free injectable H1N1 flu shot:

- Comes in pre-filled syringes for adults and pre-filled syringes for children
- Child doses are for children 6 months to 35 months old
- Adult doses are for pregnant women
- Not for people who are allergic to eggs or components of the vaccine
- Comes in pre-filled syringes for adults and pre-filled syringes for children
- Given in the muscle, usually the upper arm for adults or thigh for children
- Contains a dead flu virus and does not cause flu illness

Intranasal FluMist®

- For children and adults age 2 – 49 years old with no chronic medical conditions
- Not for pregnant women
- Not for children under 24 months old
- Nor for people with compromised immune systems or medical conditions like asthma, diabetes, heart disease or lung disease
- Not for people who are allergic to components of the vaccine
- Sprayed directly into the nostrils
- Provides immunity in 8 days
- Contains a live, weakened virus that does not cause flu illness

On October 22, 2009 Margaret Donnelly, director of Missouri's Department of Health and Senior Services granted an exemption to Missouri statute that prohibited giving vaccine that contained preservative to pregnant women or to children under the age of three years old. The statute allowed the health director to set aside the ban in certain circumstances, including a pandemic or a shortage of vaccine. This exemption allows pregnant women and parents of children less than three years old to choose whether to receive H1N1 flu vaccine that contains trace amounts of a mercury-based preservative. Individuals are encouraged to consult their health care provider to determine which vaccine is appropriate for them or their child.

The federal government offers assurance that it will continue to support the manufacture of 2009 novel H1N1 influenza vaccine until every U.S. resident has had an opportunity to be vaccinated.

For more information, contact your local public health department or visit www.FightTheFluMO.com

Oct 09

