

# PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

## Medical & Practitioner Staff Bulletin #3 Friday October 30, 2009

Dr. Penny Davis (SRMA) & Dr. David Poulin (SHR)

On October 21, 2009, the Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq announced that Health Canada has approved AREPANRIX, a vaccine against the pandemic H1N1 flu virus. The Minister authorized the sale of the Arepanrix™ H1N1 vaccine (AS03-Adjuvanted H1N1 Pandemic Influenza Vaccine) based on clinical testing in humans. The Minister and the Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. David Butler Jones, reported that the adjuvanted vaccine has been judged safe and effective for use in Canada by both the Canadian manufacturer, GlaxoSmithKline, as well as by the Health Canada regulator.

### Immunization

**pH1N1 and seasonal** immunization continues this weekend for all Health Care Workers (HCW) including Physicians and their staff, and Community-based Health Care Professionals and their staff as listed below. Availability of resources is an ongoing concern. A phone line has now been set up that will have a frequently updated message regarding the status of immunization clinics for Health Care Workers. You are advised to call the number before attending the clinic.

#### **HCW Clinic Status Hotline: 655-8789**

##### **Saturday October 31 & Sunday November 1**

7:00 am – 4:00 pm in OH&S offices at the following sites:

- RUH - old hospital building 6th floor room 6756
- SPH- level 0 across from the auditorium
- SCH main floor - across from the in-patient psychiatry unit

##### **Saturday October 31 only**

7:00 am – 4:00 pm at Parkridge Centre 110 Gropper Crescent, Multi-purpose room

**Remember to bring your Staff Identification and Saskatchewan Health Card to the clinic**

Immunization of high risk groups will start the week of **November 2nd**.

Details of clinic times and locations will follow in an upcoming Bulletin. The high risk groups to be immunized initially are:

- ❖ Children age 6 months to under 5 years
- ❖ Pregnant woman
- ❖ Women up to four weeks postpartum

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT LOIS SPIZAWKA, MEDICAL AFFAIRS AT 655-8410

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