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## ***Health Advisory***

**November 18, 2009**

### **CSL's H1N1 2009 Vaccine Now Approved for Children 6 months of age and older**

On November 11, the FDA expanded the approved use of CSL's seasonal and 2009 H1N1 monovalent influenza vaccines to include children aged 6 months and older. Previously, these vaccines had been approved only for use in adults 18 years and older.

This approval means that these vaccines can now be used across a much broader range of ages. The guidance below considers the practicalities of H1N1 vaccine and ancillary supply kit allocation, ordering, and distribution, and includes a rationale for specific H1N1 presentations:

**Pre-filled syringes:** CDC is recommending that ***providers reserve both the CSL H1N1 pre-filled syringe and multi-dose vial vaccine presentations for individuals 3 years of age and older if alternative H1N1 products are available for children 6-35 months of age.***

- Because CSL's pre-filled syringes come only in doses appropriate for children 3 years and older (0.5 mL), providers using this presentation in children 6-35 months of age would be wasting one dose per syringe, since these children would require half a dose (0.25mL).
- Providers may not:
  - Transfer some or all of the contents of one syringe to another
  - Use the same syringe to give a second half-dose to another child
- Because of the current limited availability of this vaccine, therefore, providers are encouraged to reserve CSL H1N1 pre-filled syringes for individuals 3 years and older and are discouraged from using half doses in children 6-35 months and discarding the rest.

**Multi-dose vials:** Consider your other available H1N1 vaccine products in determining the age range of patients to whom to administer the CSL and sanofi pasteur H1N1 multi-dose vial vaccine presentations, now both licensed for individuals 6 months and older.

- If you have no other available H1N1 products with which to immunize children 6-35 months of age, you may use "half-doses" (0.25 mL) from MDV presentations, considering:
  - Providers will receive only one multi-dose vial ancillary supply kit per 100 doses of H1N1 multi-dose vial vaccine. Effectively, then, providers who administer half-doses to children 6-35 months of age from the multi-dose vial formulation will be short half of the number of needle/syringe units, alcohol pads, vaccination records cards and sharps containers.
  - Providers who choose to administer half-doses from the multi-dose vial presentation would need to use their own ancillary supplies to make up the difference. Additional vaccination record cards may be printed from the CDC website:  
[http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/2009-10/pdf/influenza\\_record\\_card2009.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/2009-10/pdf/influenza_record_card2009.pdf)

For any questions about H1N1 vaccine orders, administration guidelines, or storage and handling, please email [vaccines@phila.gov](mailto:vaccines@phila.gov)