STATE OF OHIO

Emergency Operations Center

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Ted Strickland, Governor

NEWS RELEASE ema.ohio.gov

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ODH ORDERS ADDITIONAL H1N1 FLU VACCINE

438,900 doses will be shipped directly to communities

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) submitted an order for 438,900 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Friday afternoon. The vaccine will be shipped directly to 879 local health departments, family physicians, federally qualified health centers, hospitals, pediatricians and OB/GYNs in 88 Ohio counties.

The order includes 77,300 doses of nasal-spray vaccine and 361,600 shots of H1N1 flu vaccine.

The vaccine is intended for high-risk individuals including health care workers and EMS workers who provide direct patient care; pregnant women; people who live with or care for children less than 6 months; all people 6 months to 24 years; and people 25 to 64 years with chronic medical conditions.

Providers may choose to vaccinate some subset of the above group depending on vaccine supply and the demographic makeup of the patients they serve.

The vaccine orders should begin arriving at provider offices and clinics today, according to CDC.

ODH has ordered 2,039,400 doses thus far. This represents Ohio's total allotment at this time of H1N1 influenza vaccine. More vaccine is expected to be available in the coming weeks.

For more information on vaccine availability, check the ODH Web site at http://www.flu.ohio.gov or call the ODH H1N1 information line at 1-866-800-1404 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Contact: State of Ohio Joint Information Center – (614) 799-6480