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ODH ORDERS ADDITIONAL H1N1 FLU VACCINE
288,000 doses will be shipped directly to communities

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) submitted orders for 288,000 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) last week. The vaccine will be shipped directly to 638 enrolled medical providers, including physicians, federally qualified health centers, and clinics. Also included were local health departments, hospitals, pharmacies and state institutions.

The order includes 29,200 doses of nasal-spray vaccine and 258,800 shots of H1N1 flu vaccine.

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

Immunization providers in Ohio have previously received 3,756,400 doses, bringing Ohio’s total to 4,044,400 doses thus far. More vaccine is expected to be available in the coming weeks.

ODH is also reminding parents and health care providers that children younger than 10 should receive two doses of H1N1 flu vaccine in order to achieve optimal protection against pandemic flu. Children who had their first dose on or before December 7th, 2009 are now eligible for their second dose. The CDC recommends that the two doses of H1N1 vaccine be separated by 28 days to be effective.

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 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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