

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING H1N1 FLU (*last updated 11/1/09*):

The H1N1 (“swine” flu) vaccine has started to be made available to Brigham and Women’s Hospital in a very limited supply on a weekly basis. This initial supply is first being made available to patients in the targeted priority groups, as established by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH).

The first phase for vaccination of the target group includes:

- Pregnant women
- Immuno-compromised patients in an inpatient setting
- Direct care providers for these patients

Once the above-mentioned group has been sufficiently vaccinated, the second phase will begin.

This next phase includes:

- Household contacts of infants less than 6 months of age
- Household contacts of pregnant women in their 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester
- Patients between the ages of 6 months and 24 years who have medical conditions associated with a higher risk of influenza complications
- Healthcare workers caring for these patients

After both of these vaccination phases are completed, and depending upon actual supply of H1N1 vaccine, the remaining vaccine will be provided to the rest of the general public.

We will provide continuous updates (including how, when and where to obtain the vaccine) as soon as we get them. These updates will be posted here on our website, on our phone menu (617-732-9900), and via broadcast messages sent through our Patient Gateway system ([www.patientgateway.org](http://www.patientgateway.org)).

Thank you,  
Brigham and Women’s Physician Group