

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will be coordinating the distribution of the novel H1N1 vaccine. The vaccine will not be distributed via the usual private sector channels but will be made available through DSHS only. All healthcare providers in Texas who would like to vaccinate against this disease are encouraged to pre-register to receive vaccine. The deadline to register is September 6, 2009 for providers and clinic sites that are not part of a public health department. To register please log on to [www.TexasFlu.org](http://www.TexasFlu.org) or you may call DSHS immunization Branch at (800) 252-9152.

CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that programs and providers vaccinate certain groups first:

1. pregnant women;
2. household contacts and caregivers of children younger than 6 months of age;
3. healthcare and emergency medical services personnel;
4. all people from 6 months to 24 years of age; and
5. persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with a higher risk of medical complications from influenza (detailed definitions of high risk are provided below).

For additional information on the registration, ordering and reporting process of the H1N1 vaccine please refer to [www.TexasFlu.org](http://www.TexasFlu.org).