

### H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and Administration

The following information outlines the coverage criteria for H1N1 vaccination and administration as pertains to members enrolled with South Country Health Alliance.

#### ***Vaccination Funding and Vaccine Administration***

##### ***(1) High-priority Populations***

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified the following target groups to receive the 2009 H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available in mid-October 2009:

- ◆ **Pregnant women** because they are at higher risk of complications and can potentially provide protection to infants younger than 6 months of age who cannot be vaccinated;
- ◆ **Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age** because younger infants are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and cannot be vaccinated. Vaccination of those in close contact with infants less than 6 months old might help protect infants by “cocooning” them from the virus;
- ◆ **Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel** because they are at very high risk of exposure to the new H1N1 virus and because infections among healthcare workers can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism in this population could reduce healthcare system capacity;
- ◆ **Children from 6 months through 18 years of age** because we have seen many cases of novel 2009 H1N1 influenza in children and they are in close contact with each other in school and day care settings, which increases the likelihood of disease spread;
- ◆ **Young adults 19 through 24 years of age** because we have seen many cases of novel 2009 H1N1 influenza in these healthy young adults and they often live, work, and study in close proximity, and they are a frequently mobile population; and,
- ◆ **Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.**

##### ***(2) Vaccine Funding and Vaccine Administration***

The vaccine itself will be purchased by the Federal Government. Information about vaccine distribution can be found on the CDC Web site at

[http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/statelocal/centralized\\_distribution\\_ga.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/statelocal/centralized_distribution_ga.htm).



While the vaccine will be free, providers will be allowed to charge a fee for the administration of the vaccine. Medicaid programs will be responsible for covering the administration fee for eligible populations. States are encouraged to review the vaccine administration fees outside of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program to ensure they are adequate to provide broad access to the 2009 H1N1 vaccine.

### **2009 H1N1 Vaccine HIPAA-Compliant Codes**

**For coding (identifying) the 2009 H1N1 vaccine and administration providers must use the following?**

- ◆ Vaccine - Current CPT code 90663, which is a generic code for pandemic influenza virus vaccine.

**OR**

- ◆ Vaccine - New established H1N1 HCPCS G9142, Influenza A (H1N1) vaccine, any route of administration,
- ◆ Administration of the H1N1 vaccine HCPCS G9141, Influenza A (H1N1) immunization administration (includes the physician counseling the patient/family).

Since the H1N1 vaccine is supplied at no cost to providers, there will be no separate reimbursement for the vaccine. However, payments will be made to providers for the administration of the H1N1 vaccine. Payment for the administration of the H1N1 vaccine is the same as the payment established for G0008 and G0009, codes used for reporting the administration of the influenza or pneumococcal vaccine. Providers should report one unit of HCPCS code G9141 for each administration of the H1N1 vaccine. Beneficiary copayment and deductible do not apply to HCPCS code G9141.

The ICD-9 shall represent the administration of the vaccine – V04.81.

For additional information, please visit:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/flu/hcp/vaccine/index.html>.