

 **STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D.  
Commissioner

James W. Clyne, Jr.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

February 5, 2010

Dear H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Provider,

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) would like to extend to you our thanks for your participation in the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccination program. We understand that the H1N1 vaccination campaign has been a challenging one for all vaccine providers and appreciate your patience and positive response to the H1N1 vaccine registration and ordering process.

For those providers who have not previously administered influenza vaccinations to your patients, we hope that you will strongly consider continuing in your role as a vaccine provider in the future. In this regard, the NYSDOH is encouraging all vaccine providers to pre-book influenza vaccine now to ensure that a sufficient amount of vaccine will be available to protect your vulnerable patients and staff for the 2010-2011 influenza season.

Pre-booking influenza vaccine orders is taking place now through February, even though many providers are still administering influenza vaccine for the current influenza season. Timely pre-booking is important to assure that you will have sufficient supplies in the fall. Also, manufacturers base their planned production in part on the number of pre-book orders they receive.

You should review your influenza vaccine purchasing options and assess the needs of your practice or organization. For more information on distributors and influenza vaccine availability, please visit the following websites:

- Influenza Vaccine Distributor Information  
<http://www.flusupplynews.com/resources.cfm>
- Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System (IVATS)  
[http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/ivats\\_healthcare.asp](http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/ivats_healthcare.asp)

We strongly encourage you to plan for the next influenza season and order influenza vaccine now. Should you need further assistance, please call the NYSDOH Bureau of Immunization at 518-473-4437.

Sincerely,



Guthrie S. Birkhead, M.D., M.P.H.  
Deputy Commissioner  
Office of Public Health