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## Pandemic H1N1 (2009) Influenza Update

- **Orange County (OC) update:** As of August 25, 2009, 217 hospitalized cases of pandemic H1N1 influenza and 19 fatalities have been reported in OC residents. Median age of hospitalized cases is 24 years (range, <1-81 years). 41% of hospitalized cases have been children. Of the 49 hospitalized female cases of childbearing age, 20 (41%) were pregnant. Novel H1N1 influenza activity appears to be decreasing locally and nationally, but influenza activity is expected to increase again shortly with K-12 schools resuming and seasonal influenza coming.

- **CDC issues guidance and toolkit for response to influenza for institutions of higher education for the 2009-2010 academic year:**

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/schools/>.

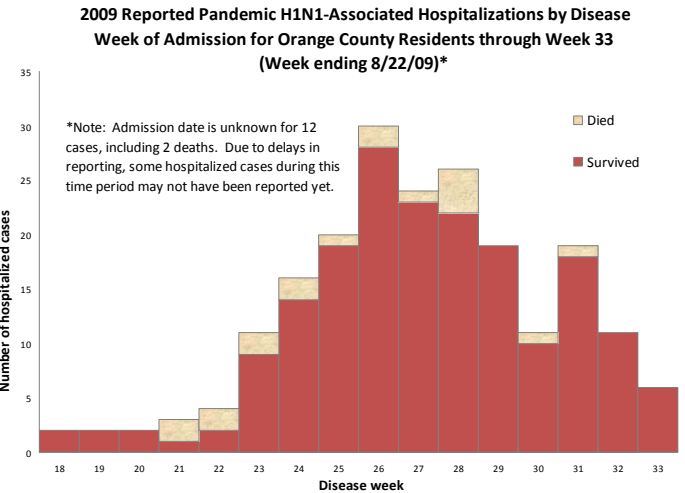
- **CDPH endorses the CDC's recommendations for school (K-12) responses to influenza during the 2009-2010 school year.** See <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/SwineInfluenza.aspx>.

- **Pandemic H1N1 2009 virus rapidly overtook seasonal influenza strains in New Zealand (NZ).** Pandemic H1N1 was first identified in the southern hemisphere on April 25, 2009, in NZ following the return of a group of high school students from Mexico. NZ entered its winter season (*summer months here*) with cocirculation of both seasonal and pandemic H1N1 2009 influenza strains. By the week ending 7/5/09, 80% of influenza identified through sentinel surveillance in NZ was 2009 H1N1 and 87% in neighboring Australia was 2009 H1N1 by 7/12/09. General practitioner influenza-like illness consultation rates in NZ were three times that seen in 2008 and the highest seen since 1997. See *MMWR* 8/28/2009 issue, available at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr).

- **CDC Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) publishes recommendations for use of influenza A (H1N1) 2009 monovalent vaccine.** See *MMWR Recommendations and Reports* (8/28/09) at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr). Initial target groups have not changed since the 7/31/09 *Eye on Influenza*:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency services personnel
- Persons between the ages of 6 months through 24 years, and
- People from 25 through 64 years of age who are at higher risk for novel H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

The document also addresses sub-prioritization within these groups if necessary initially and use of vaccine in other adult population groups once vaccine availability increases.



### Pandemic influenza H1N1 vaccine is coming soon!

Calling all groups interested in providing this vaccine:

- Hospitals
- Physicians
- Employee health programs
- Pharmacies (chain and independent)
- Other vaccinators
- Clinics (public and private)
- Community health centers
- Community vaccinators
- Health plans

**Starting September 1, 2009, go to [www.CalPanFlu.org](http://www.CalPanFlu.org) to pre-register for vaccine, order vaccine, and receive information and updates.**

For more information and for local details, see <http://ochealthinfo.com/h1n1/>.