

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

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HEALTH AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)

SUBJECT: Guidance for Disposition of 2009 H1N1 Vaccine

Vaccine immunization rates for the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine program have reached targeted levels for uniformed personnel. Excess 2009 H1N1 vaccine, both non-expired and expired, are located at various Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) and at the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia. The 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine is expected to become available in August 2010 and will include the 2009 H1N1 vaccine strain as part of its composition.

To avoid potential vaccine administration errors, the current 2009 H1N1 vaccine program stopped as of August 1, 2010. Services are to transition to the 2010-2011 Seasonal Influenza program upon receipt of the 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine. Expired and non-expired 2009 H1N1 vaccine at MTFs should be discarded beginning August 1, 2010.

To properly dispose of vaccine, MTFs that have an existing pharmaceutical reverse distribution service contract may use this program to return both expired and non-expired H1N1 influenza vaccine. The Central Vaccine Recovery Program, administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is a voluntary program intended to currently recover only expired H1N1 vaccine. Installations that signed a provider agreement for state allocated 2009 H1N1 vaccine have received detailed information from the State Immunization Program, which includes state-specific information on how to return vaccine. Vaccine that has not expired and remains at Defense Depots should be held pending instructions from the CDC Central Vaccine

Recovery Program. According to CDC, the return process for unexpired vaccine will be determined in the fall of 2010 for the Central Vaccine Recovery Program. The point of contact for this issue is Colonel Wayne E. Hachey, who may be reached at (703) 575-2669, or Wayne.Hachey@ha.osd.mil.

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Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)

cc:

Surgeon General of the Army Surgeon General of the Navy Surgeon General of the Air Force Medical Officer of the Marine Corps Joint Staff Surgeon Director, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia