

## **Options for Commissioned Corps Officers to Receive 2009 H1N1 Vaccine**

In the upcoming weeks and months, along with other major employers and good partners, many Federal departments and agencies will offer voluntary vaccination for Federal employees, following the ACIP recommendations being used nationally, and covering the remaining employee population thereafter. Vaccine will be provided in accordance with Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) national guidelines for prioritization of the 2009 H1N1 vaccine, which recommend that, as vaccine becomes available, vaccination programs and providers target vaccine first to the following five priority groups because they are at highest risk for disease or complications related to the 2009 H1N1 virus:

- Pregnant women
- Persons who live with or provide care for infants less than 6 months old
- Health care and emergency medical services personnel
- Persons aged 6 months to 24 years
- Persons aged 25 to 64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications

The initial shipments of vaccine to the Federal Government should be targeted to health care and emergency medical services personnel and others in the highest-risk subgroups. Some Federal employees may choose to receive the H1N1 vaccine through their personal health care provider or other private mechanism, as they can for seasonal flu vaccine, depending on States' distribution plans. Any vaccine not used by Federal agencies will be made available to the States.

There are several mechanisms through which Commissioned Corps Officers should be able to receive vaccine. The figure on the following page walks you through available options. If you have any questions, please contact the HHS H1N1 taskforce workforce lead, Amanda Smith at 202-205-8077, or [Amanda.Smith@hhs.gov](mailto:Amanda.Smith@hhs.gov)

# Where Should Commissioned Corps Officers Receive the 2009 H1N1 Vaccine?

