

Seasonal Flu Shots update: Juilliard Health Service has not received any of the seasonal flu shot order it placed for this year's flu season. There is a reported shortage of flu vaccine in New York City and throughout the State. Even flu shot programs at local drugstores are being stopped because they have no more flu shot inventory. The shortage is attributed to the struggle by manufacturers to produce vaccines this year for both seasonal and swine flu, and to the high numbers of people who are getting the seasonal flu shot. The shortage is being felt nationwide and is expected to continue until next month, federal health officials say. It is uncertain when/if Health Services will receive any seasonal flu shot vaccines, but a community-wide email will be sent if an adequate supply is shipped to us. Faculty and staff who want a flu shot should contact their primary care providers.

What groups are recommended for seasonal flu vaccine?

Vaccination is particularly important for people who are at high risk of having serious seasonal flu-related complications or people who live with or care for those at high risk for serious seasonal flu-related complications, including:

- Children aged 6 months up to their 19th birthday
- Pregnant women
- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:
 - Health care workers
 - Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
 - Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated)

H1N1(swine) Flu Shots update: The US federal government has procured 250 million doses of 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine. It is expected that there will be enough 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine for anyone who chooses to get vaccinated. Juilliard Health Service is a Dept. of Health registered H1N1 Vaccine clinic and we are waiting for our order to be processed and shipped. A community-wide email will be sent when the H1N1 vaccines arrive. We have ordered only injections, no nasal mist. CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended that certain groups of the population receive the 2009 H1N1 vaccine when it first becomes available. These target groups include pregnant women, people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age, healthcare and emergency medical services personnel, persons between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old, and people ages of 25 through 64 years of age who are at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems. Current studies indicate the risk for infection among persons age 65 or older is less than the risk for younger age groups. Therefore, as vaccine supply and demand for vaccine among younger age groups is being met, providers are being directed to offer vaccination to healthy individuals ages 25 – 65 and people over the age of 65. Individuals who have allergies to eggs or any other substance in the vaccine, or who have had severe reactions to previous doses of seasonal flu vaccine or who have had Guillain Barré Syndrome, may need to avoid the H1N1 vaccine.