

# Health**FAX**

## **Influenza Vaccines Update: New GSK unadjuvanted pH1N1, other current pH1N1, and seasonal influenza vaccines, Relaxation of VDA Reporting Requirements**

Attention: **Physicians, Long-Term Care Homes, Hospitals, Infection Control Practitioners, Walk-In Clinics, Nurse Practitioners, Correctional Facilities, Rest & Retirement Homes**

Date: November 20, 2009

### **pH1N1 vaccines**

We have received our third type of pH1N1 vaccine this week; the GSK unadjuvanted vaccine. Note that this is in addition to the Australian CSL Panvax pH1N1 unadjuvanted vaccine that has only been available for pregnant women through the health unit's immunization clinics and some obstetricians.

We are making the GSK unadjuvanted vaccine available to physicians. The vaccine:

- is targeted for pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy, as there has been more experience with unadjuvanted vaccines in pregnancy vs. adjuvanted vaccines (although experts state the pH1N1 adjuvanted (Arepandrix) vaccine is safe for pregnant women);
- has slightly lower immunogenicity than the adjuvanted vaccine, but still provides excellent protection against pH1N1 infection;
- comes in a single vial of 10 doses and can be used **up to 28 days after first puncturing the vial** (vs. only 24 hours for the adjuvanted vaccine, after mixing vaccine and adjuvant);
- is indicated also for healthy people from age 10 to 64, in addition to pregnant women.

Please see the following pages for a table that compares all 3 pH1N1 vaccines and the 2 seasonal influenza vaccines.

### **Seasonal Flu vaccines**

Seasonal flu vaccine is available and can be ordered from health unit local offices. As noted in previous HealthFaxes pH1N1 and seasonal flu vaccine can be co-administered by using separate syringes and different sites (arms).

**Vaccine Delivery Agent (VDA) Reporting Requirements Relaxed**

Effective Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, VDAs no longer have to report on their pH1N1 vaccine usage to the health unit. Reporting requirements now revert to the usual reporting in the seasonal Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP). Thus all practitioners and other agencies who usually participate in the UIIP may now order pH1N1 and seasonal vaccines. It is felt by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care that sufficient information has now been collected from VDAs on the pH1N1 vaccine to no longer require the reporting of information on each dose administered. The objective is now to administer as many doses to the population as possible.

However, in order to complete the data set, it is requested that all providers who have received pH1N1 vaccine to date and have administered doses on or before Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> please forward their final record reports to the health unit.

## Guide to Using Influenza Vaccines in the 2009-2010 Season

### November 19, 2009

<b>Trade name</b>	<b>Arepanrix™</b> (available at the public health run H1N1 immunization clinics and available for physicians to order)	<b>Influenza A (H1N1) 2009 Pandemic Monovalent Vaccine (Without Adjuvant)</b> (no trade name yet and available for physicians to order)	<b>Panvax®</b> (available at the public health run H1N1 immunization clinics and not generally available for physicians to order)	<b>Vaxigrip®</b> (will soon be available at the public health run seasonal flu immunization clinics and will be available for physicians to order)	<b>Fluviral®</b> (will soon be available at the public health run seasonal flu immunization clinics and will be available for physicians to order)
<b>Description</b>	Adjuvanted H1N1 pandemic influenza vaccine	Unadjuvanted H1N1 pandemic influenza vaccine from Canadian	Unadjuvanted H1H1 pandemic influenza vaccine from Australian	Seasonal influenza vaccine	Seasonal influenza vaccine
<b>Manufacturer</b>	GlaxoSmithKline	GlaxoSmithKline	CSL Limited	Sanofi pasteur	GlaxoSmithKline
<b>Protects against</b>	Pandemic H1N1 influenza	Pandemic H1N1 influenza	Pandemic H1N1 influenza	Seasonal H1N1, H3N2 and B strains of influenza	Seasonal H1N1, H3N2 and B strains of influenza
<b>Indicated for</b>	Everyone 6 months of age or older; Can be used in pregnant women.	Healthy people 10 to 64 years of age; Pregnant women.	Pregnant women; Healthy people 10 to 64 years of age.	Everyone 6 months of age and older	Everyone 6 months of age and older
<b>Use in pregnancy</b>	Recommended in pregnancy if H1N1 influenza circulating & unadjuvanted vaccine not available	Recommended for pregnant women at all stages of pregnancy	Recommended for pregnant women at all stages of pregnancy	Recommended for pregnant women at all stages of pregnancy	Recommended for pregnant women at all stages of pregnancy
<b>Use in people with weakened immune systems</b>	Recommended H1N1 product	Not the recommended product	Not the recommended product	Recommended	Recommended
<b>Use in children 6 months to less than 10 years</b>	Recommended H1N1 product (see next page for dosing)	Not recommended for this age	Not recommended for this age	Recommended (see next page for dosing)	Recommended (see next page for dosing)
<b>Use in people 65 years of age and older</b>	Recommended H1N1 product	Not the recommended product	Not the recommended product	Recommended	Recommended
<b>Possible allergens</b>	Eggs Thimerosal - rarely	Eggs Thimerosal- rarely	Eggs Thimerosal – rarely Neomycin Polymyxin B	Eggs Thimerosal – rarely Neomycin	Eggs Thimerosal – rarely

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<b>First dose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 ml for 6 months to less than 10 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 10 years and older</li> </ul>	0.5 ml for 10 years and older	0.5 ml for 10 years and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 ml for 6 months to less than 3 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 3 years to less than 9 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 9 years and older.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 ml for 6 months to less than 3 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 3 years to less than 9 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 9 years and older.</li> </ul>
<b>Second dose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 ml for 6 months to less than 3 years;</li> <li>0.25 ml for 3 years to less than 10 years with underlying medical conditions,</li> </ul> At least 21 days from first dose	Not needed	Not needed	If never vaccinated with the seasonal influenza vaccine before and less than 9 years of age as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 ml for 6 months to less than 3 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 3 years to less than 9 years.</li> </ul> At least 4 weeks from first dose	If never vaccinated with the seasonal influenza vaccine before and less than 9 years of age as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 ml for 6 months to less than 3 years;</li> <li>0.5 ml for 3 years to less than 9 years.</li> </ul> At least 4 weeks from first dose
<b>Time to use before discarding</b>	Use within 24 hours of mixing adjuvant and antigen	Use within 28 days of first puncturing the vial	Use within 28 days of first puncturing the vial	Use within 7 days of first puncturing the vial	Use within 28 days of first puncturing the vial
<b>Appearance with cap on</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjuvant – small vial with beige cap and milky liquid</li> <li>Antigen - big vial with purple cap, purple strip on the bottom of the label and clear liquid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green cap</li> <li>Red rim around the stopper</li> <li>Green boxes on bottom of label</li> <li>Clear fluid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dark blue cap</li> <li>Panvax written in blue</li> <li>Clear fluid</li> </ul>	Not available right now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red cap</li> <li>Red boxes on bottom of the label</li> <li>Clear fluid</li> </ul>
<b>Appearance with cap off</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When mixed, will be in the big vial with the purple strip on the bottom of the label and will look milky</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red rim around stopper</li> <li>Green boxes on bottom of label</li> <li>Clear fluid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panvax written in blue</li> <li>Clear fluid</li> </ul>	Not available right now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red boxes on the bottom of the label</li> <li>Clear fluid</li> </ul>

**NOTE: The Pandemic H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccines can be given at the same visit (separate needle, syringe and limb). If not given at the same visit, they can be given at any time before or after each other.** Table is adapted from the Middlesex-London Health Unit table.