

H1N1 Vaccination Strategies for Virginia's School-age Children

October 30, 2009

Overarching Principles:

- The Virginia Department of Health promotes equity and fairness in vaccine distribution and availability.
- VDH is committed to giving every school-age child in Virginia an opportunity for H1N1 vaccination.
- VDH's mission includes assuring that vulnerable, at-risk pediatric groups have vaccination opportunities.

Strategy:

- VDH is partnering with the private sector to provide a wide variety of vaccination opportunities for the public.
- VDH is using mass vaccination clinics to swiftly vaccinate large numbers of children.
- VDH is using other modalities to assure all children have vaccination opportunities.

Tactics:

- Each health district will employ a variety of vaccination opportunities for school-age children.
- Each health department will, as of November 1, hold at a minimum one weekly vaccination opportunity for school-aged children that will be open to all children. Availability will be publicized (ex. website, distribution lists, partners). If vaccine is received, a minimum of 5% of the vaccine received in the prior week will be reserved for this program. These opportunities may be at the health department or at another site in the community. Inclusion of younger children will be at the discretion of the health district director.
- School-based clinics will also continue as vaccine supply permits.
- Mass clinics, other than the above, can also be used to reach out to children.