



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

Lillian Rivera, RN, MSN, PhD, Administrator

October 12, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Miami-Dade County Health Department would like to provide you with information about 2009 H1N1 Influenza "Flu" Vaccination. H1N1 Influenza is a new virus causing illness in people. Persons under 24 years of age are a priority group for this vaccine. We want to make sure that all children in the county have the opportunity to be protected by getting this vaccine

**If your child has a private doctor**, you are encouraged to contact your child's doctor to see if they have the vaccine available and whether they recommend it for your child. Many doctor's offices will receive this vaccine in late October. Please make an appointment with your child's doctor as soon as possible.

**If your child does not have a doctor or you do not have health insurance**, the school nurse will offer the H1N1 vaccine to students in school **free of charge**.

There are two types of H1N1 vaccines available. One is an H1N1 flu nasal spray which is inhaled in the nose and the other is an H1N1 flu shot which is injected in the arm. The doctor will determine which type of vaccine is better depending on if your child has any allergies or medical conditions. Prior to vaccination, please discuss with the doctor any conditions your child may have, especially if he/she is allergic to eggs. Also, each vaccine may be given in either 2 doses or 1 dose depending on your child's age. Children under 10 years of age may need 2 doses of vaccine.

Please see the following attached documents: Parent/Guardian Consent, Initiation of Services, Vaccine Information Statements and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). If you want your child to get vaccinated by the school when the vaccine becomes available, you must complete the Consent and Initiation of Services forms. Please detach the two 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Information (What You Need to Know) and HIPAA forms for your reading.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Miami-Dade County Health Department at 305-324-2400. Thank you so much and we wish you and your family a healthy and safe school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fermin Leguen".

Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH  
Chief Physician, Miami-Dade County Health Department



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