



National Influenza Vaccine Summit

Influenza Activity Spotlights

Thursday, August 12, 2010

Issue #2

Professional Medical Organizations

Please disseminate widely to all of your members.

1. A [letter](#) from Dr. Anne Schuchat, NCIRD, to healthcare providers was recently issued to encourage universal vaccination of all people age 6 months and older.
2. *MMWR* published a policy note on the ACIP recommendations for use of Afluria for 2010-2011. This policy note is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5931.pdf> (see pages 989-992). Also note that FDA has classified three influenza vaccines as pregnancy category B, see page 993. These are FluLaval, Fluarix, Agriflu.
3. GSK has provided the following update on its vaccine supply for 2010-2011:

GSK has announced that it expects to provide between 32-33 million doses of seasonal flu vaccine (FLULAVAL and FLUARIX combined) for the 2010-2011 flu season. This number reflects fewer doses of FLUARIX than was initially planned.

At GSK our top priorities are patients and public health. Accordingly, we are prioritizing public customers and will fulfill 100% of CDC orders.

Private customers and customers who purchase vaccines on a 340b contract, who placed their reservation for FLUARIX on or after December 1, 2009 are likely to be invited to confirm a percentage of their pre-book reservation based on product availability. We regret that we are unable to provide the specific percentage at this point.

Impacted customers who feel they may need more doses should be able to purchase seasonal flu vaccine from other sources if required.

4. Sanofi pasteur has released a [letter](#) to healthcare professionals advising them of an approximate 2-3 week delay in delivery of Fluzone due to an issue requiring revision of the package insert. However, sanofi is on track to deliver the 70 million doses that they estimated they would produce at the Summit meeting in May.
5. As announced on the August 5 ACIP meeting by conference call, Merck/CSL will not be bringing to the U.S. market this season the 0.25ml and multi-dose vial formulations of Afluria. Merck estimates that this will result in about 7 million doses of vaccine for the U.S. market.