



Paul R. LePage, Governor

Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

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June 8, 2011

Dear Colleague,

This notice is being sent to all schools and health care providers that participated in school-based influenza vaccine clinics (SLVC) in the past year. This notice is intended to give you some basic guidance about the SLVC registration and ordering process for the 2011-2012 season.

Beginning in 2009, US CDC has recommended that most people over six months of age receive an annual flu vaccine. For the past two school years, SLVC have proven to be a very successful way of ensuring children receive their flu vaccine, which reduces the impact of flu on our communities. Maine CDC plans to continue to provide flu vaccine for all children – both in schools and provider offices – for the 2011-2012 season. Vaccine will also be available for staff in participating schools. SLVC are not mandated; participation is completely voluntary.

For those who plan to participate in SLVC:

- In **July**, Maine CDC will be sending an announcement to all registered immunization providers with detailed instructions about ordering and registering for SLVC.
- Sample documents (consent forms, the VIS, policies, etc.) will be available on our website (www.maine flu.gov) **beginning in July**.
- In **August**, vaccine ordering will open.
- Unless there are delays with vaccine production, we expect to begin shipping vaccine in **September**.

More information will be available in July. If you have any immediate questions, please email: flu.questions@maine.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter F. Smith".

Peter F. Smith, PhD
Director, Division of Infectious Disease