

Health Alert
12/11/09

1. A chart with information on H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccine administration is attached.
2. Transplant societies have issued guidance for surgeons and other healthcare professionals on managing pandemic H1N1 issues in solid organ recipients and donors:
<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123198716/PDFSTART>.
3. WHO recently issued a brief on oseltamivir resistance in immunocompromised patients. The full document is available at
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/briefing_20091202/en/index.html.
Excerpts follow below.

Severely immunocompromised patients need to be regarded as an especially vulnerable group. These patients are highly susceptible to infection, particularly difficult to treat, and especially likely to develop resistance.

As early signs of influenza may be masked by symptoms associated with underlying disorders or their treatment, doctors treating such patients should operate with a high level of suspicion for influenza virus infection and be especially vigilant for the rapid development of oseltamivir resistance.

In these patients, standard treatment doses and duration for treatment with oseltamivir are unlikely to be sufficient. Though clinical judgement is important, doses may need to be increased and continued, without interruption, for the duration of acute illness. Zanamivir should be considered as the treatment of choice for patients who develop prolonged influenza illness despite treatment with oseltamivir.

Once oseltamivir resistant virus has been detected in a ward treating severely immunocompromised patients, doctors should consider switching to zanamivir as the antiviral drug of first choice for treatment and when considering post exposure prophylactic treatment of other patients on the ward.

Note:

1. To inquire about obtaining IV zanamivir, call:

During normal business hours (8:00 am - 4:30 pm EST): (301) 796-1500

After business hours (4:30 pm - 8:00 am EST): (301) 796-9900 or (301) 443-1240

2. Information on oseltamivir resistance testing is available at

http://www.idph.state.il.us/h1n1_flu/5546-healthalert102809.pdf

H1N1 & SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

Recommended Number of Doses of Influenza Vaccine by Age

Age	H1N1	Seasonal Flu
6 months - 8 years	2	2 or 1*
9 years	2	1
10 years and older	1	1

* 1 dose recommended unless never received influenza vaccine or first and only dose given last season.

Intervals Between Doses of the Same Influenza Vaccine

Type of Flu Vaccine	Interval
H1N1 + H1N1	Approximately 4 weeks apart (≥21 days acceptable)~
Seasonal Flu + Seasonal Flu	

~ If the interval separating the doses is less than 21 days, a third dose should be repeated at least 21 days after the second dose. (An interval of ≥14 days is only acceptable between 2 doses of live H1N1 vaccine.)

Interval Between Doses of Different Influenza Vaccines

H1N1	Seasonal Flu	Interval
Inactivated, Injectable	Inactivated, Injectable	May be given on same day or at any interval
Inactivated, Injectable	Live, Intranasal	
Live, Intranasal	Inactivated, Injectable	≥14 days acceptable†
Live, Intranasal	Live, Intranasal	

† If doses of both live influenza vaccines are inadvertently given on same day, do not need to repeat the doses. If doses of live influenza vaccines are given at an interval of less than 14 days, the vaccine more recently administered should be repeated at least 14 days after it was given prematurely.

Mixing of Products in a 2-dose Series

Using products from different manufacturers, including one live and one inactivated dose, in a 2-dose series is acceptable when available inventory does not permit giving two doses of the same product.

Intervals Between Doses of Other Vaccines and Influenza Vaccines

Type of Vaccine	Interval with Influenza Vaccine
Inactivated Vaccines	May be given at any time in relation to a dose of live or inactivated influenza vaccine.
Live, Injectable Vaccines (e.g., MMR, Varicella, Zoster, Yellow Fever)	May be given at any time in relation to a dose of any inactivated influenza vaccine. May be given either at the same time or at least 28 days before or after a dose of any live influenza vaccine.

Vaccine Route and Volume

Inactivated: Intramuscular (IM)		Live: Intranasal	
Age	Volume	Age	Volume
6 - 35 months	0.25 ml	2 - 49 years	0.20 ml
≥3 years	0.50 ml	(each nostril - 0.10 ml)	

WHAT COMBINATIONS ARE OKAY?

Can give at the same time

Do **NOT** give on the same visit

Wait at least 14 days between the different doses.

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