

## H1N1 Action:

### Home Care Workers: High Priority for H1N1 Vaccination

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Dear Home Care Worker:

A limited supply of H1N1 vaccine is now available in Oregon. Initially, the vaccine will be targeted for certain priority groups. Because of the increased risk of exposure and the need to have workers available to provide services that potentially impact health, health care workers are in the initial priority group. However, unlike the seasonal flu vaccine, clients (*even those with chronic conditions*) who are age 65 or older are not in the priority population for H1N1 flu vaccination. There will eventually be enough H1N1 vaccine for everyone.

You, as an active Home Care Worker, are considered “health care workers” and have priority access to the H1N1 vaccination.

This alert gives instructions about getting vaccinated.

You can get the H1N1 vaccine from either your personal or public flu clinics sponsored by the local health department. Once the health department knows when they will have the H1N1 vaccine, they will advertise the sites of the flu clinics. There may be an administration fee (*usually \$15 or less*), but no one will be turned away because of inability to pay.

It may be helpful to print this letter and take it as proof that you are a “health care worker.”

To protect yourself and the people you serve, please get both the H1N1 and seasonal flu shot as soon as possible.

Thanks for your kind consideration,

Oregon Department of Human Services, Seniors and People with Disabilities  
For more information, call the Oregon Public Health Flu Hotline at **1-800-978-3040**.