



This is an official  
**DHEC Health Advisory**

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10191-DHA-10-23-09 H1N1

**2009-2010 Influenza Season:  
Guidance for Health Care Providers on the Triage and  
Treatment of Children and Adolescents**

**Background**

The predominantly circulating influenza strain continues to be 2009 H1N1 influenza. Children and adolescents are at high risk for infection with 2009 H1N1 influenza. Once infected, they are more likely to develop complications, including severe illness and death. As a result, CDC has released two documents to assist health care providers with the triage and treatment of children and adolescents ( $\leq 18$  years) during the 2009-2010 Influenza Season.

**Summary of CDC Guidance**

On October 16, 2009, the CDC published an algorithm to help clinicians triage and provide advice to parents or other caregivers of ill children and adolescents on when to seek medical care for an influenza-like illness. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) collaborated with the CDC and the AAP endorses this algorithm.

Most children and adolescents who develop a mild illness consistent with uncomplicated influenza, or appear to be recovering from influenza, do not need antiviral medications for treatment. However, clinical judgment is always an essential part of treatment decisions. Assessment of a child's or adolescent's clinical presentation and underlying risk factors for influenza-related complications and death should guide medical decisions regarding evaluation, follow-up, or treatment

**2009-2010 Influenza Season Triage Algorithm for Children and Adolescents ( $\leq 18$  years) With Influenza-Like Illness**

- Designed for use by health care providers, not the general public
- Assists physicians and those under their supervision in identifying patients at high risk for complications and who may require evaluation for possible treatment
- Emphasizes that children with certain underlying conditions, and children under 5 years, and especially those under 2 years, are particularly at high risk
- Does not provide guidance for other illnesses and is not intended to substitute for clinical judgment.
- Can be used whether or not a child has been vaccinated against influenza

Also on October 16, 2009, the CDC released guidance on the use of antiviral medications for the management of 2009 H1N1 influenza and seasonal influenza in children and adolescents.

## **Recommendations for Use of Antiviral Medications for the Management of Influenza in Children and Adolescent for the 2009-2010 Season – Pediatric Supplement for Health Care Providers**

- Provides supplemental recommendations on the use of antiviral medications for the treatment and chemoprophylaxis of both 2009 H1N1 and seasonal influenza
- Assists clinicians in prioritizing the use of antiviral medications for those at higher risk of complications
- Stresses early treatment and emphasizes **not waiting for laboratory confirmation** in patients who present with signs and symptoms consistent with an influenza like illness
- Provides information on
  - Use of antivirals for treatment and post-exposure prophylaxis
  - Antiviral dosing and preparations
  - Avoidance of aspirin containing products in children with influenza like illness
  - Appropriate supportive care for children with influenza like illness (use of anti-pyretics, avoidance of cold medications in young children)
  - Potential for bacterial coinfections

These documents are available on the CDC website:

- 2009-2010 Influenza Season Triage Algorithm for Children (18 years or Younger) With Influenza-Like Illness: [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/pdf/childalgorithm.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/pdf/childalgorithm.pdf)
- Recommendations for Use of Antiviral Medications for the Management of Influenza in Children and Adolescent for the 2009-2010 Season – Pediatric Supplement for Health Care Providers: [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations\\_pediatric\\_supplement.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations_pediatric_supplement.htm)

### **Sources for additional information:**

Updated Interim Recommendations for the Use of Antiviral Medications in the Treatment and Prevention of Influenza for the 2009-2010 Season

- [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm)

Antiviral Safety Information

- [www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/safety\\_info.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/antivirals/safety_info.htm)

Top 10 frequently asked questions on the use of the 2009 H1N1 vaccines: Practical considerations for providers.

- [www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/top10\\_faq.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/vaccination/top10_faq.htm)

Interim Recommendations for Clinical Use of Influenza Diagnostic Tests During the 2009-10 Influenza Season

- [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/diagnostic\\_tests.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/diagnostic_tests.htm)

Questions & Answers: Antiviral Drugs, 2009-2010 Flu Season

- [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/antiviral.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/antiviral.htm)

### **DHEC contact information for reportable diseases and reporting requirements**

Reporting of outbreaks/clusters of cases of influenza (both seasonal and novel H1N1), aggregate positive influenza rapid tests, positive virus cultures for influenza and influenza deaths are consistent with South

Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2009 List of Reportable Conditions available at: <http://www.scdhec.gov/administration/library/CR-009025.pdf>

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

## Regional Public Health Offices – 2009

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region.

### Region 1

#### **Anderson, Oconee**

220 McGee Road  
Anderson, SC 29625  
Phone: (864) 260-4358  
Fax: (864) 260-5623  
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-298-4442

#### **Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda**

1736 S. Main Street  
Greenwood, SC 29646  
Phone: 1-888-218-5475  
Fax: (864) 942-3690  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

### Region 2

#### **Greenville, Pickens**

PO Box 2507  
200 University Ridge  
Greenville, SC 29602-2507  
Phone: (864) 282-4139  
Fax: (864) 282-4373  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-993-1186

#### **Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union**

PO Box 4217  
151 E. Wood Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217  
Phone: (864) 596-2227, x- 210  
Fax: (864) 596-3443  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-993-1186

### Region 3

#### **Chester, Lancaster, York**

PO Box 817  
1833 Pageland Highway  
Lancaster, SC 29720  
Phone: (803) 286-9948  
Fax: (803) 286-5418  
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-867-3886

### Region 3 (continued)

#### **Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland**

2000 Hampton Street  
Columbia, SC 29204  
Phone: (803) 576-2749  
Fax: (803) 576-2993  
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-554-9915

### Region 4

#### **Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter**

PO Box 1628  
105 North Magnolia Street  
Sumter, SC 29150  
Phone: (803) 773-5511  
Fax: (803) 775-9941  
Nights/Weekends: 1-877-831-4647

#### **Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion**

145 E. Cheves Street  
Florence, SC 29506  
Phone: (843) 661-4830  
Fax: (843) 661-4859  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 660-8145

### Region 5

#### **Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg**

PO Box 1126  
1550 Carolina Avenue  
Orangeburg, SC 29116  
Phone: (803) 533-7199  
Fax: (803) 533-7134  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 954-8513

#### **Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell**

1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40  
Aiken, SC 29801  
Phone: (803) 642-1618  
Fax: (803) 643-8386  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 827-8668 or  
1-800-614-1519

### Region 6

#### **Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg**

1931 Industrial Park Road  
Conway, SC 29526-5482  
Phone: (843) 915-8804  
Fax: (843) 365-0085  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

### Region 7

#### **Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester**

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600  
N. Charleston, SC 29405  
Phone: (843) 953-0060  
Fax: (843) 953-0051  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

### Region 8

#### **Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper**

219 S. Lemacks Street  
Walterboro, SC 29488  
Phone: (843) 525-5910  
Fax: (843) 549-6845  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-614-4698

#### **DHEC Bureau of Disease Control Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology**

1751 Calhoun Street  
Box 101106  
Columbia, SC 29211  
Phone: (803) 898-0861  
Fax: (803) 898-0897  
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902



[www.scdhec.gov](http://www.scdhec.gov)

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**Health Alert** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.