

THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

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School Nurses Identified as H1N1 Vaccine Priority Group

School nurses and nurse practitioners have been identified by the State Department of Public Health (DPH) as a priority group to be vaccinated in the early rounds of Connecticut's H1N1 Influenza vaccine campaign. School nurses and nurse practitioners are involved in both public health activities and care of children with illnesses, accidents or chronic diseases. They regularly identify outbreaks of influenza and other communicable diseases and provide direct care to children who are considered to be one of the most at risk populations for contracting the H1N1 Influenza.

Each school nurse supervisor must extend this invitation to school nurses working in private schools within their communities. Local school nurse teams (School Based Health Clinic nurse practitioners, public and private school nurses) who are interested in receiving the H1N1 vaccine may contact their local health department directors to assure that they are a part of upcoming allocation of vaccines. Contact information for local health department directors can be found on the DPH Web site at <http://www.ct.gov/dph/mda> or by calling 211.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Knutson, School Health Consultant at 860-807-2108 or Stephanie.knutson@ct.gov.

Special Points of Interest:

- *School Nurses Identified as H1N1 Priority Group*
- *H1N1 School Dismissal Monitoring System*
- *2009-10 Asthma Reporting Form*
- *H1N1 Influenza Hotline- 1-800-830-9426*

H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Guidelines for Schools

2009 H1N1 Influenza School-Located Vaccination (SLV): Information for Planners

The purpose of this guideline is to provide information for planning and conducting school-located 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccination clinics that target school-aged children enrolled in school and potentially other groups in the community. Please access the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site for details: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/slv/planners.htm>.

School-Located H1N1 Influenza Vaccination: Related Materials

This resource provides template letters to parents and template consent forms in various languages. Please access the following CDC Web site for details: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/slv/relatedmaterials.htm>.

Novel H1N1 Influenza Vaccine: Frequently Asked Questions

Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Web site: <http://www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch/cwp/view.asp?a=2533&q=445646>.

!!! DPH H1N1 Influenza Hotline !!! 1-800-830-9426



H1N1 School Dismissal Monitoring System

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U. S. Department of Education have established a School Dismissal Monitoring System to report on H1N1 influenza related school or school district dismissal in the United States. Your assistance in reporting **known school dismissals** is very important. Please report novel influenza A (H1N1) related school and/or district closures by: 1) Filling out an [online reporting form](#); or 2) Downloading an [electronic version of the reporting form](#), filling it out, and submitting via e-mail or fax.

For more school-related influenza information, please go to www.ed.gov or www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu.



Professional Development Opportunities



Putting Prevention into Practice: Successful Strategies for Keeping Students Safe and Healthy

This New England Regional School Based Health Center conference will provide a premiere learning opportunity for a diverse array of practitioners and stakeholders interested in child and adolescent health. The primary goal of the conference is to provide the school based health center community with high-quality continuing education and regional networking opportunities. This will be accomplished through engaging workshops that encompass current, relevant research coupled with evidence-based, outcome-focused training sessions, aimed toward the specific needs of clinicians, child health advocates, and educators. Participants will learn innovative prevention and intervention strategies through ten workshops led by experts in the fields of child and adolescent behavioral health, oral health, physical health, school violence, emerging infectious diseases, adolescent legal issues, and more.

For registration and additional information access <http://www.ctschoolhealth.org/>.

When: Friday, November 20, 2009

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Water's Edge Resort, Westbrook, Connecticut



Webinar

Learn about the FREE **energy education programs** available for Grades K-12 for your local schools on November 23, 2009, at 3:30 p.m. or December 3, 2009, at 12:00 p.m.

This Webinar is brought to you by:

- CT Clean Energy Fund;
- CT Energy Efficiency Fund; and
- Institute for Sustainable Energy.

For registration and additional information, please e-mail lcei@ctcleanenergy.com.

Beyond Diversity: A Foundation for De-Institutionalizing Racism & Improving Student Achievement

Beyond Diversity is a powerful, personally transforming, two-day seminar designed to help teachers, administrators, support personnel, families, community members, and policymakers understand the impact of race on students' learning and investigate the role that institutionalized racism plays in academic achievement disparities.

Participants will utilize the Four Agreements and Six Conditions to engage in a reflective exploration of race and racism and the influences of each upon the culture and climate of schools. The presenters will lead participants in facilitated activities designed to examine the impact of race on schooling and student achievement. For registration please access the SERC Web site at <http://ctserc.org/s/>.

The following sessions are available:

- Session B: Wednesday, December 9, 2009, and Thursday, December 10, 2009;
- Session C: Thursday, January 7, 2010, and Friday, January 8, 2010; and
- Session D: Wednesday, February 10, 2010, and Thursday, February 11, 2010.



The Connecticut Department of Public Health Asthma Program Newsletter

The Asthma Program newsletter, "A Breath of Fresh News", was designed to provide information on the latest asthma-related activities initiated since the May 2003 Statewide Asthma Meeting. The Connecticut Department of Public (DPH) Health Asthma Program publishes the newsletter electronically on a quarterly basis. You may access the latest newsletter at <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3137&q=400426>.

Asthma Links provides resources and information on partnerships, healthcare providers, asthma initiatives and other resource links that may be useful to school nurses. **Asthma Links** may be accessed at the DPH Web site at http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3137&q=400618&dphNav_GID=1948&dphNav=.

School Employee Wellness Awards Program

The Directors of Health Promotion and Education (DHPE) have created a School Employee Wellness Awards Program to recognize schools and school districts that demonstrate commitment to the health of their employees by implementing school employee wellness programs. The awards program is based on the nine steps for establishing a school employee wellness program, outlined in *School Employee Wellness: A Guide for Protecting the Assets of Our Nation's Schools*. Awardees will receive special recognition for their efforts that include grants (Bronze \$250, Silver \$500, Gold \$1000) to be reinvested in their employee wellness programs.

To apply or to learn more about school employee wellness programs, visit <http://www.schoolempwell.org/>.

Applications must be submitted or postmarked by December 1, 2009.



!!! IMPORTANT REMINDER !!!

Parental consent forms are mandatory for ALL medication administration to school children. The Medication Administration regulations can be found on the Public Health Code Web site at <http://www.dir.ct.gov/dph/PHC/browse.asp> (scroll down to Administration of Medication by School Personnel).



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**...Keeping CT School Nurses
Informed and Involved!**

Asthma Reporting Form

The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) Asthma Program has established a statewide system for school-based asthma surveillance based on the school Health Assessment Record (HAR). Connecticut General Statute ([C.G.S. 10-206](#)) requires that schools report to the DPH on an annual basis, information on students with asthma. School nurses will be required to report to the DPH on all students with a provider diagnosis of asthma indicated on the HAR. The DPH will use this information to help determine asthma trends and distributions among school-aged children in Connecticut.



Please access additional information at http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3137&q=438684&dphNav_GID=1948&dphNav&pp=12&n=1.

Nondiscrimination Statement

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