



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Oct. 5, 2004

CONTACT: Leslie Ridgeway (619) 685-2239

MEDIA ADVISORY

COUNTY TO DISCUSS FLU VACCINE AVAILABILITY

WHO: Nancy Bowen, M.D., San Diego County Public Health Officer
Linda Davis, San Diego Community Health Improvement Partners
Gary Vilke, M.D., UCSD Emergency Room physician

WHAT: Discussion of recent reports about adult flu vaccine supply and possible impact on San Diego County

WHEN: 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 5

WHERE: 1700 Pacific Highway
San Diego

WHY: Following reports that one of the nation's two suppliers of adult flu vaccine will not ship its supply this year, the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency and its partner agencies join federal Health and Human Services in requesting that people who are not in high risk groups forego or defer the flu vaccine. Federal Health and Human Services (HHS) anticipates having approximately 54 million doses of influenza vaccine from Aventis and about another 1-2 million doses of FluMist nasal spray. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has convened its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to prioritize its recommendations on who should get the flu vaccine for this season based on the new vaccine supply information. The federal government, HHS and partner agencies request the help of the public, the public health community and the medical community to make sure that the vaccine goes to those who truly need it most.

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