



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER REVIEWS FLU VACCINE DISTRIBUTION** ***New Vaccine Will Be Distributed Only To Individuals In CDC-Identified High Risk Groups***

The *County of San Diego Health and Humans Services Agency* (HHSA) has been informed by the *California Department of Health Services* that it will receive approximately 25,000 doses of adult flu vaccine this week, approximately 42% of the 60,000 doses HHSA had originally expected. HHSA has revised its distribution plan that was developed before the vaccine shortage occurred.

The distribution plan will ensure that the limited supply of vaccine HHSA receives will ONLY go to individuals in those high-risk priority groups, as designated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Distribution of vaccine will occur as soon as possible to public health centers, community clinics, residential facilities for elderly and disabled, and senior centers.

HHSA was also notified that clinical providers, who ordered flu vaccine from *Aventis* before the shortage was announced, will receive shipments of vaccine directly from *Aventis*. Individuals who have health insurance should check about vaccine availability through their physician or health group. Community providers must comply with the order from the State of California Public Health Officer, to vaccinate ONLY those in CDC's high-risk priority groups.

By the time community health care providers receive their allotted supply from *Aventis*, some of their patients have already been vaccinated elsewhere, leaving the provider with "extra" vaccine. Providers should not use this supply to vaccinate lower priority groups; they should contact the *Community Health Improvement Partners* (CHIP), so any "extra" vaccine can be redistributed to areas in need.

Individuals in the CDC's high risk groups, who have not yet been vaccinated, should keep checking with their health care providers, the CHIP Web site at [www.sdchip.org](http://www.sdchip.org) or the toll free flu hotline at 877-FLU-0202, as updates on supplies and new clinic locations will occur as vaccine shipments come in over the next month.

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