

# Pandemic Influenza H1N1-2009 Immunization Program Participation Q & A

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Frequently asked questions by vaccine delivery agents about the Ontario Pandemic Influenza H1N1-2009 Immunization Program vaccine delivery requirements:

**Q1:** Who are the vaccine delivery agents for the H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** The following organizations have been recommended by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to assist in the delivery of H1N1-2009 vaccine for the province of Ontario:

- **Health Care Facilities**, includes:
  - Public Hospitals  
(<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/hosp/hospcode.html>)
  - Long-Term Care Homes (<http://publicreporting.ltchomes.net/en-ca/default.aspx>)
  - Out-patient clinics on case by case basis (e.g. renal dialysis clinic)
- **Community Care Access Centre (CCAC)**  
([http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/ccac/ccacloc\\_mn.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/ccac/ccacloc_mn.html))
  - **Note:** CCACs can contract with only **ONE** designated health care agency that is approved by the local public health unit for home-bound clients exclusively.
- **Primary Care Providers**, includes:
  - Community Health Centres
  - Family Health Teams
  - Aboriginal Access Centres
  - Physicians
  - Nurse Practitioners
- **Universities and Colleges Health Services**
- **Correctional Facilities Health Services**

**Please Note:** Health Units are not required to utilize each vaccine delivery agent noted on this list within their jurisdiction. However, health units are not permitted to utilize vaccine delivery agents that are not indicated on the list above.

**Q2:** Can I hire a health care agency to administer H1N1-2009 vaccine on my behalf if I am a vaccine delivery agent that will be delivering the H1N1-2009 vaccine in my public health unit's jurisdiction?

**A:** No, vaccine delivery agents cannot hire another organization to administer the H1N1-2009 vaccine.

**Q3:** I am a Community Care Access Center (CCAC) that is not storing or administering H1N1-2009 vaccine; can I hire a health care agency to administer H1N1-2009 vaccine to house-bound clients?

**A:** Yes, If the CCAC is not storing and/or administering H1N1-2009 vaccine they can retain a SINGLE health care agency that is approved by the local public health unit to assist with H1N1-2009 vaccine administration to home bound clients.

The health care agency that is retained must demonstrate they have satisfactorily passed the required annual vaccine refrigerator inspection to administer publicly funded vaccine.

**Q4:** My organization is a vaccine delivery agent that is not a CCAC, can my organization retain a health care agency to administer H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** No; only a CCAC can retain a health care agency to assist in the H1N1-2009 vaccine administration and delivery process.

**Q5:** Can individuals from a health care agency be retained by a vaccine delivery agent to assist with H1N1-2009 vaccine administration?

**A:** Yes, staff from health care agencies can be retained by vaccine delivery agents to assist with H1N1-2009 vaccine administration **if they are under the direct supervision of the vaccine delivery agent and the vaccine delivery agent is solely responsible for executing the H1N1-2009 immunization clinic.**

**Q6:** Do I need a cold chain inspection to receive, store, and administer H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** Yes, this is a requirement for the storing of all publicly funded vaccines. This inspection must be documented as satisfactory for the current year.

**Q7:** If I have already had a satisfactory annual cold chain inspection in 2009-10 do I need another cold chain inspection?

**A:** No, there is no need for an additional cold chain inspection.

**Q8:** If my annual cold chain inspection was not satisfactory this year can I still receive H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** Please contact your local public health unit regarding this matter  
[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc\\_dt.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_dt.html).

**Q9:** Does our organization need to provide the MOHLTC with a copy of our cold chain inspection results and/or temperature logs?

**A:** No, the local health unit that conducted your annual cold chain inspection(s) should have a record of your inspection and results.

**Q10:** My organization is not indicated on the list of MOHLTC approved vaccine delivery agents, can my organization receive, store, and administer H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** No, only those listed as approved vaccine delivery agents can receive store and administer the H1N1-2009 vaccine.

**Q11:** My organization is a retirement home that is affiliated with a Long-Term Care Home (either owned by a LTCH or by company that owns both LTCHs and retirement homes). Can my retirement home receive, store, and administer H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** No, only vaccine delivery agents listed in this document can receive, store and administer the H1N1-2009 vaccine.

**Q12:** My practice has a small "bar" fridge, is this sufficient to contain the H1N1-2009 vaccine?

**A:** This type of fridge is not recommended to store vaccine. Please refer to the MOHLTC *Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines*, 2006 (or as current). Available from: [https://www.publichealthontario.ca/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS\\_0\\_11863\\_9334\\_1181\\_1\\_4011\\_43/http%3B/ptpublisher.phportal.srv.ehealthontario.ca%3B7087/publishedcontent/publis h/sshapho/communities/programs/infectious\\_diseases/vaccine\\_storage\\_guide\\_january\\_2006\\_2.pdf](https://www.publichealthontario.ca/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_11863_9334_1181_1_4011_43/http%3B/ptpublisher.phportal.srv.ehealthontario.ca%3B7087/publishedcontent/publis h/sshapho/communities/programs/infectious_diseases/vaccine_storage_guide_january_2006_2.pdf)

**Q13:** I have questions about H1N1-2009 vaccine cold chain and storage practices?

**A:** Please refer to your local public health unit and/or the MOHLTC *Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines*, 2006 (or as current). Available from link indicated in Q12.

**Q14:** My organization is on the MOHLTC list of approved vaccine delivery agents, but my public health unit is not allowing my organization to participate in the H1N1-2009 Immunization Program. Can I participate?

**A:** No, it is at the discretion of each local public health unit to determine the roll out of the H1N1-2009 immunization program in their jurisdiction. This would include the selection of vaccine delivery agents approved to administer the H1N1-2009 vaccine locally. Please note the list of approved vaccine delivery agents includes and is limited to those listed earlier in this document; however, public health units are not required to use every approved vaccine delivery agent listed.

**Q15:** Does my organization need to submit proof of insurance to participate in the H1N1-2009 Immunization Program?

**A:** No, there is no need to submit proof of insurance.

**Q16:** Will I be able to participate in the H1N1-2009 immunization program if my local public health unit receives our expression of interest to participate after the deadline?

**A:** Please contact your local public health unit regarding this matter [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc\\_dt.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_dt.html).

**Q17:** When will our organization be informed if we have been chosen to participate in the H1N1-2009 immunization program?

**A:** Please contact your local health unit for information regarding participation in the H1N1-2009 Immunization Program. [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc\\_dt.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_dt.html).

**Q18:** Who can our organization contact if we have additional questions?

**A:** Please contact your local public health unit

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc\\_dt.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/contact/phu/phuloc_dt.html) if you have any questions about the prequalification agreement requirements.