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UNCLAS //N06230// ALCOAST 414/09 COMDTNOTE 6230

SUBJ: 2009-2010 SEASONAL INFLUENZA (FLU) IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM A. IMMUNIZATIONS AND CHEMOPROPHYLAXIS, COMDTINST M6230.4 (SERIES) 1. ANNUAL SEASONAL FLU IMMUNIZATION IS MANDATORY FOR ALL COAST GUARD (CG) ACTIVE DUTY (AD) AND SELECTED RESERVE PERSONNEL (SELRES) TO ENSURE MILITARY FORCE MEDICAL READINESS AND AVOID DISRUPTION OF MILITARY MISSIONS.

- 2. COMMANDING OFFICERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING PERSONNEL IMMUNIZATION READINESS, INCLUDING THE SEASONAL FLU VACCINE. MEMBERS MAY RECEIVE IMMUNIZATION AFTER 01AUG09 AS SUPPLIES BECOME AVAILABLE. AD AND SELRES MEMBERS SHALL ACHIEVE 100 PERCENT COMPLIANCE NLT 01 DEC 2009. THIS IS EARLIER THAN LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO PROTECT OUR POPULATION AGAINST SEASONAL INFLUENZA BEFORE ANY SUBSEQUENT VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS AGAINST NOVEL PANDEMIC INFLUENZA STRAINS. GUIDANCE ON NOVEL H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE WILL BE ADDRESSED IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE.
- 3. SEASONAL FLU IMMUNIZATION FOR MILITARY MEMBERS SHALL BE ENTERED INTO THE MEDICAL READINESS REPORTING SYSTEM. EXEMPTIONS TO THE FLU IMMUNIZATION MAY BE CONSIDERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A.
- 4. THERE ARE TWO SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE OPTIONS NASAL SPRAY (FLUMIST) OR INJECTABLE. FLUMIST CAN BE USED FOR INDIVIDUALS, AGES 2-49 YEARS, WITHOUT ANY MEDICAL CONTRAINDICATIONS. DISCUSS YOUR MEDICAL HISTORY WITH YOUR PRIMARY CARE MANAGER (PCM) TO DETERMINE THE BEST VACCINE CHOICE FOR YOU. FLUMIST IS NOT AUTHORIZED FOR PERSONNEL ON ACTIVE FLIGHT OR DIVING STATUS.
- 5. ELIGIBILITY: AD, SELRES PERSONNEL, DEPLOYING CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AND CIVILIAN HEALTHCARE EMPLOYEES PROVIDING DIRECT PATIENT CARE ARE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY GROUPS. OTHER DEERS-ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES ENROLLED AT CG CLINICS AND DEEMED HIGH RISK BY CDC CRITERIA ARE THE NEXT HIGHEST PRIORITY. SICKBAYS SHALL WORK WITH THEIR SUPPORTING PHARMACY TO ENSURE ADEQUATE VACCINE AVAILABILITY FOR AD AND SELRES IN THEIR AOR. CLINICS SHALL ORDER AN ADEQUATE AMOUNT OF VACCINE FOR AD, SELRES, AND ENROLLED HIGH RISK BENEFICIARIES. ONCE THESE PRIORITY POPULATIONS ARE IMMUNIZED, CLINICS MAY OFFER THE FLU IMMUNIZATION TO ALL OTHER BENEFICIARIES, AND THEN ALL CG CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AS SUPPLIES ALLOW.
- 6. TAKING SIMPLE DAILY PRECAUTIONS CAN HELP PREVENT ILLNESS AND TRANSMISSION OF SEASONAL FLU AND H1N1 FLU. COVER YOUR COUGH OR SNEEZE, PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE BY WASHING HANDS OFTEN AND USING ALCOHOL BASED HAND SANITIZER, AND USING DISINFECTANT WIPES TO CLEAN YOUR WORK AREA. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SEASONAL INFLUENZA AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES, GO TO THE CDC WEBSITE AT HTTP:WWW.CDC.GOV/FLU.
- 7. POCS FOR THIS POLICY AT HSWL SUPACT IS CAPT MARIO FAJARDO 510-637-1319, MARIO.E.FAJARDO(AT)USCG.MIL AND AT CG-1121, CAPT ANITA ARNOLD 202-475-5171, ANITA.F.ARNOLD(AT)USCG.MIL.
- 8. RADM MARK TEDESCO DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND WORKLIFE, SENDS.
- 9. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.

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