

Aetna H1N1 Update

September 28, 2009

Dear IPA Administrator/Medical Director:

Here is some important information about the **H1N1 flu vaccine**.

Aetna's H1N1 flu vaccine policy

Aetna will cover administration of the H1N1 flu vaccine for all fully insured medical plan members (which includes all HMO members in CA) and for self-funded plan members unless the plan sponsor decides otherwise. We will do this regardless of whether their plan includes preventive benefits or has limits on preventive benefits, and regardless of whether the member has met a plan deductible. Aetna will pay for the administration of one or two doses of the H1N1 vaccine, based on recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

How to get the H1N1 flu vaccine

In California, the H1N1 flu vaccine is available to providers at no charge through the California Department of Public Health in partnership with local health departments. Healthcare providers and organizations can pre-register to receive vaccine, place their initial vaccine request, and report doses used through <http://www.calpanflu.org>. The H1N1 flu vaccine cannot be ordered through private organizations.

Where to go for more information

In preparation for the anticipated second wave of H1N1 influenza, we suggest you review your business continuity plans and office policies, including phone triage and after-hours availability. The following resources are available to help in your response planning:

- **CDC 2009 H1N1 flu website:** <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
- **CDC website "10 Steps You Can Take: Actions for Novel H1N1 Influenza Planning and Response for Medical Offices and Outpatient Facilities"** at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/10steps.htm>
- **HHS H1N1 website:** <http://www.flu.gov/>

If you have questions, please contact your Aetna network account manager.

Sincerely,

Greg E. Stevens
Vice President
Regional Network Operations, West Region

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