



# Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Mike Beebe

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**H1N1 Vaccine Provider Pre-Registration Sign-Up** (as promised) Go to:  
<https://health.arkansas.gov/ADHInternetApps/> Put in the Generic User Email address:  
[users@h1n1providers.com](mailto:users@h1n1providers.com) ; use Password (case sensitive): H1N1Vaccine

\*Everyone must use this email address and password to access the form-Please do not attempt to personalize.

Click on the left side of the page “H1N1 Provider Info Form” and that will take you to the preregistration pages to complete. Click *save* at the bottom when complete. If a required field is missing, the page will take you back to the required field.

## **CDC Guidance on Helping Child Care and Early Childhood Programs Respond to Influenza during the 2009–2010 Influenza Season**

Children less than 5 years of age are at increased risk of complications from influenza (flu); the risk is greater among children less than 2 years old. **Importantly, infants less than 6 months of age represent a particularly vulnerable group because they are too young to receive the seasonal or 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine; as a result, individuals responsible for caring for these children constitute a high-priority group for early vaccination.** Influenza vaccination is the primary means of preventing flu. Additionally, infection control measures are recommended to reduce the spread of flu. However, early childhood settings present unique challenges for infection control due to the highly vulnerable population, close interpersonal contact, shared toys and other objects, and limited ability of young children to understand or practice good respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene. Thus, parents, early childhood providers, and public health officials should be aware that, even under the best of circumstances, transmission of infectious diseases such as flu cannot be completely prevented in early childhood or other settings. No policy can keep everyone who is potentially infectious out of these settings.

Early childhood providers should frequently remind children, their families, and staff about the importance of staying home when ill; early treatment for people at higher risk for flu complications; hand hygiene; and respiratory etiquette. Educational materials (for example, posters) to enhance compliance with recommendations should be visible in the child care setting.

**Recommended strategies for flu:**

1. Get vaccinated
2. Stay home when sick: Children and caregivers with flu-like illness should remain at home and away from others until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100° F [37.8° C] or greater when measured orally), or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.
3. Conduct daily health checks-look for changes in the child's behavior, a report of illness or recent visit to a health care provider, and any signs or symptoms of illness.
4. Separate ill children and staff:
5. Encourage hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette of both people who are well and those who have any symptoms of flu: For children with emerging self-care skills, parents and caregivers should closely monitor their respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene and remind children not to share cups or eating utensils.
6. Perform routine environmental cleaning: Areas and items that are visibly soiled should be cleaned immediately, and all areas should be regularly cleaned – with a particular focus on items that are more likely to have frequent contact with the hands, mouths, and bodily fluids of young children (for example, toys and play areas).

The Arkansas Dept of Health will be upgrading the software used for the Health Alert Network (HAN). Use of this new system will begin on October 1, 2009. To ensure you continue to receive Dr. Snow's weekly letter and other important health information you must logon to <https://health.arkansas.gov/codespearreg>, click on "new user information" and fill in the blanks. You are required to have an email address. This email address becomes your logon ID. Please click on the web address and sign up. We will not be sending faxes after October 1.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us increase our capacity to keep you informed of important public health information in Arkansas.

If e-mail is not available, please notify Ms Deborah Biddle at [Deborah.biddle@arkansas.gov](mailto:Deborah.biddle@arkansas.gov).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Dr. Sandy Snow at 501-661-2169 or fax to 501-661-2300 or e-mail to [Sandra.snow@arkansas.gov](mailto:Sandra.snow@arkansas.gov).