

OCTOBER 6, 2004

## HEALTH ADVISORY

### National Influenza Vaccine Shortage

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) requests the participation of Physicians, Infection Control Practitioners, other healthcare providers, and administrators of Hospitals, Clinics, Long-term Care Facilities, Indian Health Services, and Public Health Units, in an interactive internet webcast/teleconference to discuss the serious shortage of influenza vaccine. The webcast/teleconference will be held from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm (CST) on Thursday, October 7, 2004. This webcast/teleconference will be hosted from the North Dakota Heritage Center auditorium where you may participate in person.

To participate in the Webcast: From an internet browser, click on the following link <http://www.health.state.nd.us/et/> and then click on the 'Webcast Schedule' button on the left-hand side of the screen. Click the blue view button of the webcast entitled "Influenza Vaccine Shortage".

Questions and comments may be presented via the internet or by telephone to other participants using one of the following media connections:

E-mail: will be available via the webcast web browser interface

Teleconference phone number: 1.800.582.9056 Room Number \*3282270\*  
*Please remember to enter the (\*) before and after the room number. Instructions will be given on how to ask questions when participating by telephone.*

The NDDoH urges your participation in this interactive discussion. Your comments and recommendations are needed to adequately plan for the 2004-2005 influenza season in North Dakota.

Please contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 800.472.2180 or 701.328.2378 if you have any questions regarding this issue.

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*Categories of Health Alert messages:*

- *Health Alert* conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
- *Health Advisory* provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
- *Health Update* provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.
- *Health Information* provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.