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**For the Attention of:  
Hospital CEOs, OHA Board of Directors, Infection Prevention  
and Control Leads, Occupational Health and Safety Leads,  
Joint Health and Safety Committee, CACN, Chief HR Officers,  
Emergency Department Managers, Emergency Preparedness  
and Pandemic Planning Leads**

**From: Greg Shaw  
Vice President, Strategic Human Resources Management  
Services**

## **Update: H1N1 Influenza A**

Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health has stated that Ontario will take a cautious approach to dealing with this year's flu season, and will be phasing in three flu vaccine programs:

- **Phase 1** - In October, the seasonal flu vaccine will be offered to Ontarians 65 years and over in addition to residents of long-term care homes;
- **Phase 2** - H1N1 vaccine will be offered to the general public and health care professionals in November; and
- **Phase 3** - The universal seasonal influenza immunization program will be offered to all other residents six months of age and older (including health care professionals) in December/January.

In the Phase 2 pH1N1 vaccination campaign, the province of Ontario will use the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) Guidance on H1N1 Vaccine Sequencing.

The PHAC recognizes that some individuals and groups may be at a higher risk of severe illness or hospitalization if the H1N1 virus is contracted. Risk factors that may put certain people at higher risk can be attributed to socio-economic and lifestyle conditions, access to health care or elevated risk of exposure to the H1N1 virus.

Further information on these guidelines can be accessed [here](#).

To read the MOHLTC news release, [click here](#).

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