

# **Influenza Vaccine Bulletin #2**

*May 10, 2002*

*Influenza Season 2002-03*

The National Immunization Program (NIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is publishing and distributing periodic bulletins to update partners about recent developments related to the production, distribution and administration of influenza vaccine for the 2002-2003 influenza season. All recipients of this bulletin are encouraged to distribute each issue widely to colleagues, members and constituents.

**The estimate of total influenza vaccine production for the 2002-03 season has increased slightly.**

- Projected distribution of influenza vaccine for 2002-03, based on aggregate manufacturers' estimates, is between 90 and 95 million doses. Approximately 87 million doses were produced in the 2001-02 influenza season. These are early projections and could change as the season progresses.

**CDC published the 2002 influenza vaccine recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) on April 12.**

- The 2002 recommendations include new or updated information regarding 1) the timing of influenza vaccination by risk group; 2) influenza vaccine for children aged 6--23 months; 3) the 2002--2003 trivalent vaccine virus strains: A/Moscow/10/99 (H3N2)-like, A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1)-like, and B/Hong Kong/330/2001-like strains; and 4) availability of certain influenza vaccine doses with reduced thimerosal content. The recommendations can be accessed at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5103a1.htm>

**Influenza vaccine for the 2002-03 influenza season is still available for purchase. Health care providers who have not already ordered influenza vaccine should purchase it as soon as possible to ensure timely receipt of vaccine.**

- Aventis-Pasteur has indicated that all of its influenza vaccine for the 2002-03 influenza season has been pre-booked. Evans Vaccines has added a distributor. In addition to the ordering information provided in Influenza Bulletin #1 (available at the CDC influenza website at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/flu>), Evans Vaccines can be purchased from FFF Enterprises at 1-800-843-7477 by phone, online at [www.fluvaccine.net](http://www.fluvaccine.net), or by fax at 1-800-418-4333. Wyeth is continuing to take orders for vaccine and can be contacted at 1-800-358-7443.



**Influenza surveillance through April 27 indicates sporadic activity in the U.S.**

- During the week ending April 27, one state and territorial health department reported widespread influenza activity, 4 reported regional activity, 23 reported sporadic activity and 16 reported no influenza activity.