



**DOH H1N1Influenza
Guidance Updates For
District of Columbia
Healthcare Providers:
Update #4**

December 7, 2009

DOH H1N1Influenza Guidance Updates For District of Columbia Healthcare Providers: Update #4

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2. [Questions & Answers](#) 2009 H1N1 Flu In The News

TAB 1

Fraudulent emails referencing CDC-sponsored State Vaccination Program

Fraudulent emails referencing CDC-sponsored State Vaccination Program

(December 1, 2009)

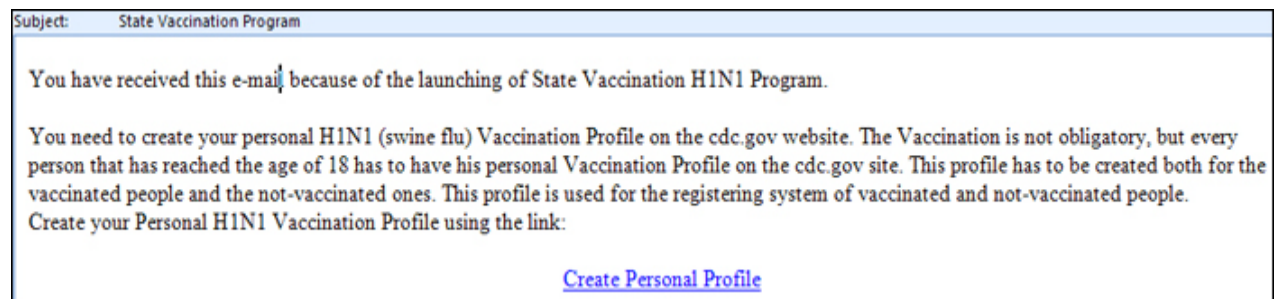
CDC has received reports of fraudulent emails (phishing) referencing a CDC sponsored State Vaccination Program.

The messages request that users must create a personal H1N1 (swine flu) Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov website. The message then states that anyone that has reached the age of 18 has to have his/her personal Vaccination Profile on the cdc.gov site.

The CDC has NOT implemented a state vaccination program requiring registration on www.cdc.gov. Users that click on the email are at risk of having malicious code installed on their system. CDC reminds users to take the following steps to reduce the risk of being a victim of a phishing attack:

- Do not follow unsolicited links and do not open or respond to unsolicited email messages.
- Use caution when visiting un-trusted websites.
- Use caution when entering personal information online.

An example of the Phishing email follows:



TAB 2

Questions & Answers 2009 H1N1 Flu in the News

Questions & Answers

2009 H1N1 Flu in the News

December 4, 2009 1:00 PM ET

Are antiviral drugs being used more often to treat severe flu illness during this pandemic than they have been for seasonal flu?

Yes. Significant increases in the proportion of hospitalized adults and children being treated with influenza antiviral drugs have been noted during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic compared to the proportion of adults and children that have been treated with flu antiviral drugs during past seasonal influenza epidemics. Data on influenza-associated hospitalizations collected through CDC's [Emerging Infections Program \(EIP\)](#) during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic indicate that 80% of children admitted to the hospital with 2009 H1N1 were treated with antiviral drugs compared to less than 20% of hospitalized children treated with antiviral drugs during past seasonal influenza epidemics. Among hospitalized adults, the proportion treated with antiviral drugs has increased from approximately 50% to 80%. EIP conducts surveillance for laboratory-confirmed influenza-related hospitalizations in children and adults in 62 counties covering 13 metropolitan areas of 10 states. Antiviral treatment is recommended for all persons hospitalized with 2009 H1N1. CDC has additional information on [antiviral drugs](#) and [recommendations on the use of antiviral drugs](#) this flu season.