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Ministry of Health

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எனது இல) EPID/400/2010
My No.)

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உமது இல)
Your No.)

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திகதி) 14. 12. 2010
Date)

Provincial/Regional Directors of Health services,
Directors of Teaching Hospitals/Specialized Campaigns,
MSS/DMOO of Provincial/Base Hospitals,
Heads of decentralized Units,
Regional epidemiologists,
MOO (MCH) and
Medical Officers of Health

Provision of Influenza A H1N1 vaccine for pregnant mothers

This has further reference to my circular of even number dated 05.07.2010 and Actg. Chief Epidemiologist's letter No. EPID/400/2009 dated 29.11.2010 on provision and organization of vaccination for individuals with potential high risk of severe diseases and complications of Pandemic Influenza A H1N1.

As advised by the Addl. Secretary (Medical services) and DGHS, the Technical committee on Pandemic Influenza A H1N1, consisting of DDG (PHS)I, Chief Epidemiologist, Director (MCH), Representative of Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, Virologist, MRI, Physician in-charge of IDH, Angoda and Physician in-charge of DMH, Colombo met on 13.12.2010 to discuss and arrive at a decision on provision of Influenza A H1N1 vaccine to pregnant mothers.

Taking into consideration the possible risks and benefits of the Influenza H1N1 vaccine, current status of disease spread, the morbidity and mortality of reported Influenza A H1N1 cases and current status of Influenza A H1N1 vaccine acceptance by the medical community and the general public, **the committee has recommended to offer Influenza A H1N1 vaccine to all pregnant mothers with immediate effect.**

Considering the close date of expiry of the vaccine, i.e. 31.12.2010, you have to organize well to offer the vaccine to pregnant mothers and it is suggested that immunization of pregnant mothers at field immunization clinics should be performed during the next two weeks by informing all pregnant mothers under the care of the respective Public Health Midwives.

Further, all antinatal mothers attending regular antinatal clinics and pregnant mothers resident in the antinatal wards should be immunized by the respective medical institutions.

For further information with regard to the vaccine dosage, route of administration and contraindications please refer to the previous communication 'provision of Influenza A H1N1 Vaccine in Sri Lanka' in my letter No. EPID/400/2010 dated 05.07.2010. Should you have any inquiry in this connection please contact the Chief Epidemiologist.

Dr. Ajith Mendis
Director General of Health Services

- cc. 1. Secretary / Health
2. DDG (PHS) I
3. DDG (PHS) II
4. DDG (MS)
5. D/MCH
6. D/HEB
7. President, Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists