

UNCLAS

SUBJ: H1N1 VACCINE FOR COAST GUARD BENEFICIARIES

A. MEDICAL MANUAL, COMDTINST M6000.1 (SERIES)

1. THE SUPPLY OF H1N1 VACCINE HAS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. THE VACCINE IS WIDELY AVAILABLE AND CAN BE ADMINISTERED TO INDIVIDUALS DESIRING PROTECTION WHO HAVE NO CONTRAINDICATIONS FOR THE VACCINE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURERS GUIDANCE. ADEQUATE SUPPLIES ARE NOW PRESENT TO IMMUNIZE ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL AND ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES, INCLUDING CG CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, AS CLINIC STAFFING PERMITS.

2. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE COAST GUARD ATTAIN THE HIGHEST VACCINE COVERAGE POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THE READINESS OF MILITARY MEMBERS AND TO PREVENT MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY IN OUR FAMILY MEMBERS, CIVILIAN FORCE, AND RETIREE POPULATIONS.

3. ALL CATEGORIES OF COAST GUARD BENEFICIARIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR VACCINATION WITH THE H1N1 VACCINE, WHETHER THE VACCINE WAS RECEIVED THROUGH THE STATE OR THROUGH THE COAST GUARD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE REFUSED IF SUFFICIENT SUPPLY AND STAFFING IS AVAILABLE.

4. PER REFERENCE (A), INDEPENDENT HEALTH SERVICE TECHNICIANS (IDHS) SICK BAYS ARE ONLY AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE VACCINATIONS TO COAST GUARD ACTIVE AND SELRES MEMBERS, UNLESS A MEDICAL OFFICER IS ON SITE.

5. FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS UPDATE PLEASE CONTACT CDR ERICA SCHWARTZ BY E-MAIL AT ERICA.G.SCHWARTZ(AT)USCG.MIL OR (202) 475-5172.

6. CAPT MICHAEL J. BOQUARD, CHIEF, OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES SENDS.

7. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.