



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

NEWSLETTER

PLEASE POST

H1N1 vaccine available to B.C. health care workers the first week of November

HEU encourages members to get the shot

The H1N1 or “swine flu” vaccine is now approved for use by Health Canada <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/nr-cp/_2009/2009_171-eng.php> and will be available to health care workers in British Columbia the first week of November.

The Hospital Employees' Union encourages members to take advantage of immunization programs that will be offered.

As with the annual seasonal flu shot, vaccination against H1N1 is considered by public health officials to be an effective measure to prevent spreading the virus or developing serious illness.

However, immunization is a matter of personal choice. HEU members who have medical concerns about either the H1N1 or the seasonal flu vaccines should talk to their doctor.

If you have issues with your employer regarding immunization, please contact your shop steward for assistance and advice.

With Health Canada's approval of the H1N1 vaccine on October 21, provinces and territories are putting immunization plans into place. You can read about B.C.'s plan here <http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009HLS0028-000514.htm>.

H1N1 symptoms include fever, cough, fatigue, headache, general body aches, and may be accompanied by a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Anyone experiencing symptoms is advised to stay home.

HEU has more about H1N1 on our website <http://www.heu.org/h1n1_flu_virus/> along with a number of links to other information and resources.

October 23, 2009

