

like all vaccines, occasionally causes local reactions at the site of injection and may cause mild systemic symptoms such as headache or fever. More severe systemic reactions generally are extremely rare. The safety profile of a pandemic vaccine may be different from that usually seen with the annual influenza vaccine.

a. Vaccine Efficacy

The benefit of vaccination is measured by determining vaccine efficacy. During a pandemic, the determination of vaccine efficacy would most likely be the role of CDC. However, the NJDHSS may be asked or required to participate in efficacy studies. The NJDHSS may wish to conduct efficacy studies in the early stages of the pandemic when fewer individuals are being vaccinated and active surveillance is more practical. It is possible that accurate and complete efficacy data may not be available until the later stages of the pandemic, depending on how much notice CDC and manufacturers have to develop a novel vaccine.

b. Contraindications

There are currently very few contraindications to vaccination against influenza. Vaccine should not be administered to persons with known anaphylactic hypersensitivity to eggs or other vaccine components as described in the package inserts. In the setting of a pandemic desensitization may be an option for those with a history of anaphylaxis to egg products and with high risk for influenza or its complications. An alternative for prevention would be prophylaxis with an antiviral medication.

11.0 Training and Exercise

Training and Exercise

The NJDHSS Operations Group is responsible for coordinating training on this plan and implementing guidance for NJDHSS employees and partner agencies and organizations.

Required training will be offered annually for newly assigned personnel.

Applicable sections of training programs will be offered whenever there are substantive changes to the plan or key guidance documents.

This plan will be exercised annually. This may be accomplished through tabletop, functional or full-scale exercises.

Evaluation and Quality Improvement

NJDHSS will assure that an After Action Report is prepared to document findings from each exercise and actual implementation of this plan.

NJDHSS will review applicable AAR(s) and other documents in order to identify opportunities to improve the plan.

NJDHSS will notify all supporting agencies to review this document on an annual basis.

Quality assurance and improvement activities including reviews of policy, procedures, protocols and processes are incorporated as part of the annual review.