



## Flu Update: 11/9/09 Long Island Hospital Industry

*This flu update is brought to you by the 24 not-for-profit and public hospitals on Long Island to keep you aware of developments at the hospital level.*

- The Long Island hospital community continues to monitor the availability of the H1N1 flu vaccine. The manufacturing process has taken longer than expected, with only half the vaccine being produced by each incubating egg. Vaccine manufacturers have received orders from all Long Island hospitals and will ship as soon as available.
- Hospitals began vaccinating their health care workers with the seasonal flu vaccine in mid-September. This was in accordance with the New York State Department of Health's vaccination mandate that has since been rescinded, due to lack of supply. There is no directive at this time to reinstate the mandate during the 2009/2010 flu season.
- The Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council's coordinator for emergency preparedness assisted Long Island hospitals during their employee vaccination **Points Of Distributions (PODs)** (a total of 16) by providing guidance and assessment to the hospitals.
- Informational/press briefing on flu is scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 10:30 AM at the Emergency Operations Center of the North Shore/LIJ Health System, 15 Burke Lane, Syosset. County health commissioners, infectious disease experts, and public health planners will be on hand to talk about flu management and flu prevention; vaccination availability and distribution; diagnostic and treatment access. This event is being sponsored by the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council and its member hospitals for the benefit of the Long Island community and the media.