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ADOA Benefit Options Wellness 2009 Flu Vaccine Program

ISSUE/QUESTION

Cancellation of the Seasonal Flu Vaccine Program

ANSWER

Due to shipping delays the Benefit Options Wellness Flu Vaccine Program has been forced to cancel many of the scheduled flu clinics. While the expectation was that more significant amounts of vaccine would arrive in November, it is likely that will not happen due the manufacturers' emphasis on H1N1 deliveries. Most recent communications from the federal government suggest the bulk of remaining seasonal flu deliveries will not be made available until December.

Therefore, **the Seasonal Flu Vaccine Program has been canceled** until more vaccine is received in December. Since the seasonal flu does not typically occur until late December or early January it will not be too late to get shots in December.

In the meantime, Benefit Options Wellness is working closely with the Arizona Department of Health Services to coordinate the administration of the H1N1 flu vaccine to State of Arizona employees. The timing of the H1N1 vaccine receipt is unknown at this time. However, once the vaccine is made available for the general public, more information about worksite clinics will be announced.

Please ask employees at your agencies to check the Benefit Options Wellness website for regularly for updates. www.benefitoptions.az.gov/wellness

ISSUED

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