

## H1N1 Resources

- [CDC 2009 H1N1 Flu \(Swine Flu\)](#)
  - [Inactivated 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine](#)
  - [Live, Intranasal 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine](#)
- [Coventry Seasonal Flu Shot Information](#)
- [US Department of Health & Human Services](#)
- [The 2009 Influenza Pandemic: An Overview](#)
- [World Health Organization Pandemic \(H1N1\) 2009](#)
- [Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City Vaccine Basics](#)

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## **Keep your company informed with important health information!**

With the upcoming flu season and news of the availability of the H1N1 vaccine we want you to have all the facts, should you choose to vaccinate yourself or a loved one.

We've provided a brief Q&A below on vaccinations and your health insurance plan, as well as links to some useful resources. If you have any questions for Alliant please send us an email at [info@alliantservices.com](mailto:info@alliantservices.com).

## Guidance on health insurance for swine flu vaccinations

October 6, 2009

The Employee Benefit Research Institute issued a Q&A fact sheet that highlights information some employers may find helpful about health insurance coverage for H1N1 and seasonal flu shots.

On Monday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched a national campaign to immunize at least half the U.S. population against the new H1N1 virus. The government purchased about 250 million doses of the vaccine at a cost of \$2 billion.

Consequently, EBRI compiled responses to questions employers may have about H1N1 vaccinations and health insurance. For example:

### **Q: Will insurance plans cover H1N1 flu shots?**

A: This year, the government is paying for the cost of the H1N1 vaccine. Large insurers in Missouri and Illinois have announced they will cover all H1N1 flu shot costs (including physician fees), and others may follow.

### **Q: Are seasonal flu shots covered by employer-based health coverage?**

A: Coverage may be part of insurance plans, but this is a matter negotiated between employers and insurers. Employees should check with their insurer to determine coverage for flu shots and what copayments may apply.

### **Q: Are there options for obtaining free seasonal or H1N1 shots if my insurer does not cover them?**

A: The situation is evolving, but press reports indicate local officials in many areas are trying to organize clinics at schools and other places. The timing and availability may depend, in particular, on the availability of the H1N1 vaccine. Your local health department is a good place to check for information.

