

Dentists Administering Flu Vaccines

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ISDS is alerting member dentists to a measure taken on Wednesday by our Governor permitting dentists to administer flu vaccines in certain settings. As a proactive measure, Gov. Quinn signed a public health emergency proclamation allowing the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) to **permit additional certified and licensed health care professionals to administer the H1N1 flu vaccine.**

The presence of H1N1 influenza has been confirmed in Illinois. Expanding the scope of practice helps **ensure a sufficient supply** of qualified health care professionals to administer the flu vaccine.

During the “emergency” period, a number of health care professionals will be able to administer the new H1N1 vaccine, **including dentists**. Others are: EMTs, pharmacists, APNs and NPs, medical residents and physician assistants.

As a dentist administering the flu vaccine, **you must be working under** the direction of IEMA (Illinois Emergency Medical Agency) and IDPH, an IEMA-certified emergency services and disaster agency, or a certified local public health department. **As a dentist, you may NOT utilize** the expanded scope of practice in any private practice or individual setting unless you are operating under an agreement with one of the aforementioned vaccine providers.

More information may be found on the [Governor's website](#), or by calling ISDS at 800/475-4737.