

## INTRODUCTION

This document contains information to assist you in completing the Pandemic Influenza Vaccine Prioritization Survey. The reference document is divided into three parts:

### Part I. Vaccination Purposes and Definitions (pages 2-3)

- This section presents the vaccination goals or purposes with definitions.

### Part II. Target Group Descriptions (pages 4-15)

- This section presents the target groups and provides brief descriptions as well as sample occupations for each group.

### Part III. Research-based Purposes (pages 15-16)

- This section presents the vaccination purposes that are based on epidemiologic research evidence and demographic data, which will be incorporated into the Decision Analysis Scoring Tool (DAST).

Please refer to the terms and definitions presented in this document as you complete the Prioritization Survey.

## SURVEY QUESTION GUIDELINES

### DO

- Answer **all** survey questions to the best of your ability
- Think in terms of **norms** rather than exceptions for each target group
- Assume role-based groups are comprised of **healthy persons, ages 18-64 years**
- For role-based target groups, think of workers who **perform important functions** within a sector
- **Leave the answer blank** if you choose not to answer the question

### DON'T

- Spend a lot of time on **one** particular target group

### REMEMBER

We are not assessing individual preferences or knowledge. Your individual answers will be **anonymous** and your survey results will be **averaged** to calculate the final prioritization scores.

**PART I. VACCINATION PURPOSES AND DEFINITIONS**



Essential Reading

Table 1 below presents the vaccination goals or purposes. As you read the purpose definitions, think about the importance of each individual purpose in determining which target groups should be prioritized for vaccine. The information in the table below corresponds to **Question #1** on the **Prioritization Survey Instrument, Page 4**.

TABLE 1. VACCINATION PURPOSES AND DEFINITIONS

Vaccination Goal (Purpose)	Definition
1. To reduce the risk of complications (severe illness and death)	Vaccinate target groups that are most likely to develop severe illness and or die as a result of becoming infected with influenza
2. To reduce occupational risk of infection	Vaccinate target groups who are most likely to become infected with influenza because they have close and/or prolonged contact with potentially infectious persons while performing their job
3. To protect persons who have a high risk of transmitting the virus to the most vulnerable populations (those unable to receive protection from vaccine)	Vaccinate target groups that live in the household and/or care for the most vulnerable populations (newborns (<6 months, severely immunocompromised persons) to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus to these people
4. To maximize vaccine effectiveness	Vaccinate target groups who are most likely to be protected from the vaccine and will mount an effective immune response. (All target groups will benefit from vaccine; however some groups have higher levels of protection than other groups.)
5. To protect persons who provide services essential to carrying out a pandemic response	Vaccinate target groups that provide essential services to carrying out a pandemic response. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Providing services necessary to ensure pandemic influenza vaccine and other essential medical products (antiviral medications, medical equipment, and hygiene products) are <b>produced, distributed, disseminated, and administered</b> among the population</li> <li>● Providing services to ensure that other response measures (isolation, quarantine, community containment measures) are developed and implemented among the population</li> <li>● Providing direct patient care and essential medical services</li> <li>● Providing public health and/or front line emergency response services</li> </ul>

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Vaccination Goal (Purpose)	Definition
<p>6. To protect persons who provide services to delay entry of pandemic virus into the United States</p>	<p>Vaccine target groups that provide an essential service to contain a pandemic or delay and reduce entry of infected persons into the United States. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Providing services overseas to contain outbreaks and limit pandemic spread</li> <li>● Providing services at U.S. borders to screen persons trying to enter the country <u>before</u> the pandemic enters the US</li> </ul>
<p>7. To protect persons who maintain national and homeland security</p>	<p>Vaccine target groups that protect national security. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Performing roles to prevent, detect, or respond to acts of terrorism or natural disasters</li> <li>● Performing roles to maintain the integrity and survival of the United States in times of peace and war.</li> </ul>
<p>8. To protect persons who provide essential services in communities</p>	<p>Vaccinate target groups that provide services to ensure the health safety, and general welfare of U.S. residents and to ensure that the government functions. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Providing direct patient care and essential medical services outside of the pandemic response</li> <li>● Performing other life-saving or life-preserving public health, safety, and/or welfare roles outside of the pandemic response</li> <li>● Providing services that are essential to meet the basic needs of communities (food, water, energy, shelter, healthcare, transportation)</li> <li>● Providing essential government services to maintain government continuity</li> </ul>
<p>9. To protect persons who provide essential economic services</p>	<p>Vaccinate target groups that provide services needed to meet the basic financial needs (ensures access to currency in order to buy goods and services) and who are essential to protecting the US economy during and after a pandemic.</p>
<p>10. To vaccinate children</p>	<p>Vaccinate target groups under the age of 18 years in order to protect and preserve future generations</p>

## PART II. TARGET GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

The target group list identifies those populations that will likely meet **one or more** of the vaccination goals and therefore should be targeted (or receive priority) for vaccine during the early stages of the pandemic. The target groups were selected based on health-related characteristics and professional roles.

Health-characteristic related target groups includes groups with certain health-related characteristics that place them at high risk of developing influenza complications as well as persons who can transmit influenza to the most vulnerable persons. These target groups are classified by their health status or health characteristic and in some cases by their age. Role-based target groups perform roles that are essential to the emergency response (domestic and international) during a pandemic; to maintain national security; and/or to maintain critical infrastructure. These groups are classified by the industry in which they work, the sub-sector or setting where they work, and in some cases, the occupation or job title they hold.

### TARGET GROUP LIST

#### Health-characteristic Target Groups

1. **People with Chronic Medical Conditions, all ages**
  - A. People with chronic medical conditions that compromise immune function, all ages
  - B. People with chronic medical conditions that **DO NOT** compromise immune function, all ages
  - C. People (hospitalized recently) with **multiple** chronic medical conditions, all ages
2. **Pregnant Women, all ages**
3. **Children <=17**
  - A. Infants and Toddlers, ages 6-23 months
  - B. Young children, ages 2-5 years
  - C. Older children and adolescents, over 5 years
4. **Persons 65+ years of age**
  - A. Healthy Persons ages 65-84 years
  - B. Healthy Persons ages 85+ years
  - C. Persons living in nursing homes, ages 65+
5. **Household contacts of persons:**
  - (1) Who are not recommended for vaccine (children <6 months)
  - (2) Who are unlikely to receive protection from vaccine (severely immunocompromised, very elderly)

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## TARGET GROUP LIST

### Role-based Target Groups

- 6. Medical Care Service Providers- Settings**
  - A. General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
  - B. Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals
  - C. Outpatient Care Facilities
  - D. Nursing and Residential Care Facilities
  - E. Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories
  - F. Pharmacies (pharmacists)
  - H. Death care services
  
- Medical Care Service Providers- Occupations**
  - (1) *Medical Care Practitioners*
  - (2) *Other Licensed Medical Care Practitioners*
  - (3) *Medical Care Aides*
  - (4) *Medical Scientists and Laboratory Technicians*
  - (5) *Mental Health and Social Service Providers*
  - (6) *Health Care System Support and General Support*
  
- 7. Public Health Departments**
  - A. Front-Line Public Health Emergency Responders
  - B. Non-emergency Public Health Employees
  
- 8. Medical and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing**
  - A. Medical Supplies, Equipment and Materiel Manufacturing
  - B. Vaccine and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing
  
- 9. Public Administration (national, state, local, tribal entities)**
  - A. Elected Officials, Lawyers, Judges
  - B. Government Employees essential for continuity of government operations
  
- 10. National and Homeland Security Services**
  - A. Border Security/Protection
  - B. Intelligence and National Security Agencies
  - C. Military: Active Duty and Reserves
  - D. National Guard
  - E. Non-domestic Diplomatic and Pandemic Emergency Assistance Services
  - F. Emergency and Disaster Planning and Management Services
  
- 11. Public Safety and Emergency Services**
  - A. Emergency Relief Organizations
  - B. Police Protection/ Law Enforcement
  - C. Fire Protection and Rescue
  - D. Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
  - E. Corrections
  
- 12. Food and Agriculture Sector**
  
- 13. Communications Sector**
  - A. Telecommunications and Information Systems
  - B. Mass Media (publishing and broadcasting)

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## Role-based Target Groups

14. Educational Services
15. Banking and Finance Sector
16. Community Assistance and Human Services Agencies (ACF, WIC, Headstart, Shelters)
17. Transportation and Warehousing
  - A. Passenger Transportation
  - B. Non-passenger Cargo transportation
  - C. Warehousing and Storage
18. Chemical Production and Manufacturing
19. Oil and Natural Gas Extraction and Production
20. Postal and Shipping
21. Utility Services
  - A. Energy Generation, Transmission and Distribution (fossil fuels, electric, nuclear, alternative energy)
  - B. Water Supply and Waste Water Management and Remediation
  - C. Refuse Collection (Solid Waste Sanitation Services)
22. Healthy Adult Population, ages 18-64

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**TARGET GROUP DESCRIPTIONS**

The following tables present the target groups and provide brief descriptions as well as sample occupations for each group. Please refer to these tables if you need further information on specific target groups.

**I. TARGET GROUPS WITH HEALTH-RELATED CHARACTERISTICS**

Target Groups Sub-groups (by age)	Target Group Descriptions
<b>PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS, ALL AGES</b>	Persons with chronic diseases that place a person at higher risk of developing influenza complications (severe illness, death) if infected
People with chronic medical conditions that compromise immune function, all ages	Diseases leading to or requiring immunosuppression (HIV/AIDS, cancer, organ transplants, other auto-immune diseases)
People with chronic medical conditions that <b>DO NOT</b> compromise immune function, all ages	All other diseases that place a person at higher risk of developing influenza complications (severe illness, death) if infected  Chronic medical conditions include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Physician-diagnosed respiratory diseases</li> <li>2. Any conditions that compromise respiratory functioning</li> <li>3. Metabolic diseases (diabetes)</li> <li>4. Cardiovascular or renal diseases</li> <li>5. Blood diseases</li> <li>6. End-state renal disease</li> <li>7. Children who receive long-term aspirin therapy</li> </ol>
People (hospitalized recently) with <b>multiple</b> chronic medical conditions that <b>DO NOT</b> compromise immune function, all ages	Persons hospitalized within the past six months with more than one chronic medical condition listed above
<b>PREGNANT WOMEN, ALL AGES</b>	Women who will become pregnant at any time during the influenza season
<b>CHILDREN &lt;=18 YEARS</b>	Includes all children who are less than 18 years of age during the influenza season
Infants and Toddlers, ages 6-23 months	Includes children who turn age 6-23 months during the influenza season
Young children, ages 2-5 years	Includes children <= 2 years and >5 years of age during the influenza season
Older children and adolescents, over 5 years	Includes children >= 5 years of age and <18 years of age during the influenza season

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Target Groups Sub-groups (by age)	Target Group Descriptions
<b>Persons 65+ years of age</b>	Includes all adults who are >=65 years of age during the influenza season
Healthy Persons ages 65-84 years	Includes adults >=65 and <84 years of age living in the community with no chronic medical conditions that place them at higher risk of developing influenza complications
Healthy Persons ages 85+ years	Includes adults >=85 years of age living in the community with no chronic medical conditions that place them at higher risk of developing influenza complications
Persons living in nursing homes, ages 65+	Includes adults >=65 years of age living in a nursing care or residential facility with no chronic medical conditions that place them at higher risk of developing influenza complications
<b>Household contacts of persons:</b> <b>(1) Who are not recommended for vaccine (children &lt;6 months)</b> <b>(2) Who are unlikely to receive protection from vaccine (severely immunocompromised, very elderly)</b>	Include all persons residing at home with the following persons <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children &lt; 6 months</li> <li>2. Persons with diseases that severely compromise immune function</li> <li>3. Persons receiving an organ transplant</li> <li>4. Persons receiving a bone marrow transplant</li> </ol>

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**II. ROLE-BASED TARGET GROUPS WITHIN HEALTH SECTORS**

Target Groups (by setting and occupation)	Target Group Descriptions	Sample Occupations
<b>MEDICAL CARE PROVIDERS AND SERVICES</b>	Includes all persons providing medical care services in the following settings	
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	<p>Facilities that provide medical, diagnostic and treatment services to inpatients</p> <p>Includes the following occupational groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Medical Care Practitioners</li> <li>B. Other Licensed Health Care Practitioners</li> <li>C. Medical Care Technicians and Aides</li> <li>D. Medical Scientists and Laboratory Technicians</li> <li>E. Mental Health and Social Service Providers</li> <li>F. Health Care System Support and General Support</li> </ul>	See occupational groups below
<i>Medical Care Practitioners</i>	Includes professionals who provide direct patient care services through the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries.	Family and general practitioners, surgeons, registered nurses, physician assistants, dentists
<i>Other Licensed Medical Care Practitioners</i>	Includes licensed professionals who provide direct patient care services outside of traditional medical care settings	veterinarians, alternative medical care practitioners
<i>Medical Care Technicians and Aides</i>	Includes professionals who prepare equipment for medical procedures and administer routine tests and treatment plans to patients.	Respiratory therapists, home health aides, nursing aides, medical assistants
<i>Medical Scientists and Laboratory Technicians,</i>	Includes professionals who conduct research dealing with the understanding of human diseases and who perform laboratory tests to diagnosis, treat, and prevent disease	Pathologists, microbiologists, medical and clinical laboratory technicians
<i>Mental Health and Social Service Providers</i>	Includes professionals who provide mental health care and social support services to patients, families, and health care workers	Mental health counselors, medical and public health social workers
<i>Health Care System Support and General Support</i>	<p>Health care system support includes professionals who perform organizational, business, financial and administrative roles.</p> <p>General support includes professionals who provide security, food preparation and handling, cleaning and maintenance and personal care services to support the daily operations of the medical care facility</p>	Medical and health service managers, budget analysts, computer systems analysts, medical secretaries, security guards, food preparation workers, janitors and cleaners, maids and housekeeping

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Target Groups (by setting, occupation, and industry sector)	Target Group Descriptions	Sample Occupations
<b>MEDICAL CARE PROVIDERS AND SERVICES CONT.</b>	Includes all professionals working in medical care settings	
Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	Facilities that provide medical, diagnostic and treatment services to inpatients who suffer mental illness or substance abuse disorders	Same occupational groups as above
Out-patient Care Facilities	Facilities that provide direct patient care services to ambulatory patients in practitioner's offices, outpatient care clinics, home health care settings, outpatient care service centers	Same occupational groups as above
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	Facilities that provide residential care combined with either nursing, supervisory or other types of care required by residents	Same occupational groups as above
Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories	Industry provides analytic or diagnostic services to the medical care service industry	Clinical lab technicians, medical secretaries, microbiologists
Pharmacies	Industry is engaged in retailing prescription or nonprescription drugs and medicines	Pharmacists, pharmacy aides, cashiers.
Death Care Services	Industry is engaged in preparing the dead for burial or internment and conducting funerals.	Funeral services directors, morticians, embalmers
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS</b>	Includes public health workers employed in departments within national, state, local or tribal jurisdictions. Including the following occupational groups:  A. Front-line Public Health Emergency Responders B. Non-emergency Public Health Professionals	
Front-line Public Health Emergency Responders	Public health workers who have a role within the incident command structure (ICS) for infectious disease emergencies	Medical officers, public information officers, bioterrorism coordinators, public health laboratory technicians, health inspectors, coroners, emergency staff
Non-emergency Public Health Professionals	Public health professionals whose work is not affiliated with the emergency response as well as professionals who provide security, cleaning and maintenance services to support the daily operations of the health department facility	Health educators, non-communicable disease researchers and epidemiologists and security guards

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Target Groups (by setting and industry sector)	Target Group Descriptions	Sample Occupations
<b>MEDICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING</b>	Includes professionals working for medical and pharmaceutical manufacturers	
Vaccine and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	Industry is engaged in the following activities: A. Manufacturing biological products B. Processing botanical drugs and herbs C. Isolating active medicinal products from drugs and herbs D. Manufacturing pharmaceuticals and vaccines	Scientists, biological technicians, machine operators
Medical supplies, equipment, and materiel manufacturing	Industry is engaged in manufacturing medical equipment and supplies. Examples of products made by these establishments are laboratory apparatus and furniture, surgical and medical instruments, surgical appliances and supplies, dental equipment and supplies, orthodontic goods and appliances, and ophthalmic equipment.	Scientists, engineers, machine operators

**III. ROLE-BASED TARGET GROUPS WITHIN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, NATIONAL AND HOMELAND SECURITY AND SAFETY SECTORS**

Target Groups (by setting and occupation)	Target Group Descriptions	Sample Occupations
<b>PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</b>	Includes professionals working for the government within national, state, local, and/or tribal jurisdictions	
Elected officials, judges	Includes government chief executives, legislative bodies, and publicly elected/appointed lawyers and judges	President, vice president, governors, mayors, senators, representatives, public attorneys, judges
Government employees essential for continuity of government operations	Includes government employees from executive, legislative and judicial branches of government who are <b>essential</b> for continuity of government operations	Public finance administrators, key staff of elected officials, essential employees within federal, state, local government agencies and departments

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Target Groups (by setting and occupation)	Target Group Descriptions	Sample Occupations
<b>NATIONAL AND HOMELAND SECURITY SERVICES</b>		
Customs and Border Security agencies	Includes government employees that protect and secure US domestic borders, US waterways, and inspect and regulate passengers and cargo at all entry points into the US	Customs agents, Transportation Security Administration employees, coast guard
Intelligence and national security agencies	Includes government agencies that carry out intelligence activities (domestic and international) for the United States and that investigate threats to both national and homeland security	CIA agents, FBI agents, NSA analysts, military intelligence agencies
Military: Active Duty and Reserves	Includes those serving within the armed forces both on active duty and in the military reserves	Army, Navy, Airforce, Marines
National Guard	Includes those persons serving within national guard units	National guardsmen
Non-domestic diplomatic and pandemic emergency assistance service workers	Includes government employees that provide diplomatic, foreign service, international aid or medical assistance services that assist foreign governments to help contain, the pandemic strain <u>before</u> it enters the United States	State Department employees, consulate officers, international medical response teams
Emergency and Disaster Planning and Management Service workers	Industry prepares emergency plans and procedures for natural, wartime, or technological emergencies, hazardous disasters or hostage situations	DHS, FEMA, State and local emergency management planners
<b>Public Safety and Emergency Services</b>		
Emergency Relief Organizations	Industry provides food, shelter, clothing, medical relief, resettlement, and counseling to victims of domestic or international disasters or conflicts	Nurses, family social workers, volunteers, mental health counselors, administrative staff
Police Protection/ Law Enforcement	Industry is engaged in criminal and civil law enforcement, police, traffic safety, and other activities related to the enforcement of the law and preservation of order	Detectives and criminal investigators, police and sheriff patrol officers, police dispatchers
Fire Protection and Rescue	Industry is engaged in fire fighting, rescue, other related fire protection activities	Fire fighters, fire dispatchers
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	Industry is engaged in providing emergency medical care and ambulance services	Paramedics, EMTs, ambulance drivers, dispatchers
Corrections	Industry is engaged in managing and operating correctional institutions	Correctional officers and jailers, administrative and personal care service staff of correctional institutions

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**IV. ROLE-BASED TARGET GROUPS WITHIN NON-HEALTH COMMERCIAL SECTORS**

Target Group (by industry sector)	Target Group Description	Sample Occupations
<b>BANKING AND FINANCE SECTOR</b>	Industry includes establishments primarily engaged in facilitating financial transactions (transactions involving the creation, liquidation, or change in ownership of financial assets)	Bankers, tellers, insurance underwriters, and financial analysts
<b>CHEMICAL PRODUCTION AND MANUFACTURING</b>	Industry establishments primarily engaged in producing and manufacturing chemicals using basic processes	Scientists, engineers, machine operators
<b>COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR</b>	Industry establishments produce and distribute information and cultural products and/or provide the means to process and transmit data communications  Industry is comprised of the following sub-sectors: A. Telecommunications and Information Systems B. Mass Media (Broadcasting and Publishing)	
Telecommunications and Information Systems	Industry includes internet service providers and web search portals, data processing industries, and the information services industries	Computer engineers, telecommunications installers and repairers
Broadcasting and Publishing	Industry is engaged in traditional broadcasting and broadcasting over the Internet as well as software, paper and internet publishing	Radio and television broadcasters, newspaper and internet publishers
<b>COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES</b>	Industries provide a variety of social assistance and welfare services including: individual and family services, vocational and rehabilitation services and child day care services	Social workers, rehabilitation counselors, vocational assistants working for ACF, WIC, Headstart, shelters
<b>EDUCATIONAL SERVICES SECTOR</b>	Industry provides instruction and training in schools, colleges, universities, and training centers. These establishments may also offer food and accommodation services to their students.	Teachers, professors, educational administrators, food service workers, school psychologists, and security guards
<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR</b>	Industry is engaged in growing crops, raising animals, harvesting timber, and harvesting fish and other animals as well as manufacturing and selling food and agricultural products	Farmers, farm workers, ranchers, breeders, agriculture equipment operators, food batchmakers
<b>OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION</b>	Industry is engaged in the extraction and production of coal and ores; crude petroleum; and gases, such as natural gas	Operating engineers, extraction workers, support personnel
<b>POSTAL AND SHIPPING SERVICES SECTOR</b>	Industry is engaged in operating the National Postal Service as well as private industry postal carriers (e.g. FedEx, UPS)	Postal service clerks, mail carriers, mail sorters and machine operators

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Target Group (by industry sector)	Target Group Description	Sample Occupations
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING</b>	Industry provides transportation of passengers and cargo, as well as warehousing and storage for goods	
Passenger transportation	Industry is engaged in transportation of passengers via air, rail, water, and ground routes	Aircraft pilots, bus drivers, sailors, railway engineers
Non-passenger Cargo Transportation	Industry is engaged in shipment of cargo via air, rail, water, pipeline and ground routes	Aircraft pilots, freight workers, laborers
Warehousing and Storage	Industry is engaged in operating warehousing and storage facilities for general merchandise, refrigerated goods, and other warehouse products	Laborers, packers and packagers, sales managers, and security guards
<b>UTILITY SERVICES SECTOR</b>	Industry is engaged in the provision of the following utility services: energy, water supply and sewage, and sanitation services	
Energy Generation, Transmission and Distribution (fossil fuels, electric, nuclear, alternative energy)	Industry is engaged in generating, transmitting, and/or distributing (electric, oil, coal, natural gas, nuclear, alternative energy) power and operating energy facilities	Power plant operators, civil engineers, nuclear engineers
Water Supply and Waste Water Management and Remediation Services	Industry is engaged in operating water treatment plants and/or operating sewer systems or sewage treatment facilities that collect, treat, and dispose of waste.	Water control and valve installers, administrative staff
Refuse Collection (Solid Waste Sanitation Services)	Industry is engaged in collecting, treating and disposing of solid waste and refuse	Sanitation collectors, engineers, machine operators

**V. OTHER HEALTHY TARGET GROUPS**

Target Group <i>Sub-groups (Categories)</i>	Target Group Descriptions
<b>ALL OTHER HEALTHY POPULATIONS, AGES 18-64</b>	Includes persons with NO underlying health characteristics that put them at high risk of influenza complications and those 18+ who are NOT EMPLOYED in the industries identified above

## PART III. RESEARCH-BASED PURPOSES

The following vaccination purposes will be based on epidemiologic research evidence (risk of complication, vaccine effectiveness) and demographic data (children, household contacts of severely immunocompromised persons). This information will be incorporated into the Decision Analysis Scoring Tool. Target groups that fulfill these purposes will be assigned points. If the epidemiology differs during the next pandemic from the available research evidence, the prioritization model will incorporate these changes and update the list. The four research-based purposes are described in more detail below.

### Risk of Complication

#### DEFINITION

Once infected, the probability of developing severe illness and/or dying as a result of the disease.

#### RESEARCH EVIDENCE

This purpose is based on current research on the risk of complications (hospitalization/death) from influenza illness that target groups face during interpandemic years as well as evidence during previous pandemics. Those with the greatest risks of complications will be assigned points for the “Risk of Complication” purpose.

### Risk of Transmission to Vulnerable Persons

#### DEFINITION

Once infected the probability of transmitting the virus within the household to persons not recommended for vaccine and/or persons unable to receive protection from vaccine.

#### RESEARCH EVIDENCE

The “risk of household transmission” determinant is based on the rationale that protecting household contacts of severely immunocompromised persons and children <6 months will reduce transmission and ultimately protect the most vulnerable populations where vaccine is least effective. The target groups that are household contacts of severely immunocompromised persons and children <6 months will be assigned points for the ‘risk of household transmission’ purpose.

### Vaccine Effectiveness

#### DEFINITION

The ability of vaccine to prevent illness and death from pandemic influenza by promoting an effective immune response.

#### RESEARCH EVIDENCE

This criterion is based on current research on the level of vaccine efficacy that target groups face during interpandemic influenza (e.g. seasonal flu). All persons experience

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some degree of protection from vaccine. However, some people receive more protection from vaccine than others. Those target groups with the highest levels of vaccine effectiveness will be assigned the most points for the “Vaccine Effectiveness” purpose.

## **Vaccinate Children**

### **DEFINITION**

Vaccinate persons under the age of 18 years in order to protect and preserve future generations.

### **RESEARCH EVIDENCE**

The “vaccinate children” purpose is based on the rationale that children are a critical resource and must receive special consideration for vaccine. The target groups that are <18 years of age during a flu pandemic will be assigned points for the “vaccinate children” purpose

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Reference and Contact Information

Contact Information

If you have additional questions or comments regarding the national pandemic influenza prioritization process, please contact:

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Web References: California Pandemic Influenza Prioritization Project

**CIDP Pandemic Influenza Project Website**

[http://www.idready.org/pandemic\\_influenza/](http://www.idready.org/pandemic_influenza/)

**CDHS Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan (DCDC Homepage)**

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/dcdcindex.htm>