



DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



## **PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY**

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Dear Marin Clinician:

Because young children and pregnant women are at high risk for severe influenza complications, and because there are currently insufficient supplies of thimerosal-free influenza vaccine, an exemption has been granted from California Health and Safety Codes (Section 124172). Until June 30, 2013, physicians may use conventional Seasonal Trivalent Influenza Vaccine (TIV) for children younger than 3 years old, as long as it is a formulation licensed for that age group, and for pregnant women.

Clinicians should prioritize any remaining supplies of thimerosal-free vaccine to young children and pregnant women when feasible as long as prioritization does not prevent the immunization of others. This exemption is similar to exemptions issued during 2006 and the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic to protect these vulnerable populations.

For more information, see the attached [letter](#) from the California Department of Public Health or visit [www.GetImmunizedCA.org](http://www.GetImmunizedCA.org).

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Willis, MD, MPH