



Press Release

For immediate release

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Vaccines delivered on time across Australia for largest national immunisation program on record

CSL Biotherapies, a subsidiary of CSL - Australia's leading biopharmaceutical company, can today confirm that 100% of deliveries of its H1N1 influenza vaccine are being completed on time in all States.

As the H1N1 2009 pandemic vaccination program is the biggest of its kind ever to be rolled out in Australia, CSL committed to complete all initial orders for vaccine within 10 working days. As of September 30, 97.4% of all initial order deliveries were completed within 5 days, and 100% of deliveries completed nationally within 6 days.

As the only manufacturer of influenza vaccines in the Southern Hemisphere, CSL has been working for close to four decades with the Federal Government and State Health Departments to provide and distribute seasonal influenza vaccines for all Australians on an annual basis. This knowledge and experience has enabled CSL to respond rapidly to the pandemic threat posed by the H1N1 (2009) influenza or 'swine flu' virus, through the manufacture, registration and distribution of its vaccine in record time.

With the H1N1 (2009) national vaccination program commencing on September 30, CSL has taken seriously its responsibility to provide a vaccine against this pandemic as quickly as possible. CSL has ensured that deliveries to groups considered 'at risk' have been given priority. All regional health districts designated 'high risk' were supplied vaccine on the launch date in order to ensure that immunisation could commence for these identified groups, as well as health care workers.

"Our H1N1 vaccine delivery times exceeded our expectations, as CSL has been able to fulfil vaccine orders in virtually half the expected period." Mary Sontrop, General Manager of CSL Biotherapies, said today.

“CSL has been able to provide such an excellent service level of distribution response due to its unique TGA approved cold-chain distribution network across Australia. This coupled with the support and commitment from CSL's supply chain staff, and drawing on our existing relationships with our quality approved carriers and state immunisation coordinators, has ensured the initial distribution of vaccine for the program has been rolled out expeditiously” she said.

To date, CSL has delivered in excess of 2 million doses of vaccine across the country, and has more than 3 million doses across CSL's interstate warehouse network ready to ship to immunisation providers upon receipt of an order.

For more information about CSL Limited, visit www.csl.com.au

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