



International  
Federation of  
Pharmaceutical  
Manufacturers &  
Associations

Fédération  
Internationale de  
l'Industrie du  
Médicament

Federación  
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Industria del  
Medicamento



## News Release

### IFPMA Member Companies Ready for H1N1 Influenza Pandemic

Geneva, 11 June 2009 – Commenting on the World Health Organization's decision to raise its global pandemic alert level to Phase 6 due to the global spread of the novel H1N1 influenza strain, IFPMA Acting Director General Michael D. Boyd said: "Our members are better prepared than ever to face a pandemic influenza threat. Vaccine makers are ready to start producing novel H1N1 vaccines as soon as requested, and are discussing with WHO measures to help ensure broad access to them. In addition, antiviral manufacturers have provided WHO with stockpiles that have already been distributed to countries in need and are now replenishing those stockpiles. Looking at the broader implications of a pandemic, extensive plans have been made to ensure that companies can continue to produce and distribute essential medicines of all kinds during an influenza pandemic."

When the novel H1N1 outbreak began, vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturers began their own internal preparations to respond to the situation. Measures undertaken included preparing to produce a targeted novel H1N1 vaccine and increasing the manufacture of antivirals. In addition, the IFPMA has been in close contact with the WHO to facilitate timely technical preparations for vaccine production. IFPMA members have also worked hard to put in place business continuity plans to ensure that they are able to maintain production and distribution of essential medicines during a possible influenza pandemic.

IFPMA members are committed to playing their part in protecting communities around the world against this pandemic influenza threat and will continue to work closely with the WHO to address different aspects of this serious public health challenge.

**(ends)**

For more information on novel H1N1 influenza and industry actions to address it, please go to:

WHO: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

IFPMA: [http://www.ifpma.org/Influenza/index.aspx?004\\_Novel\\_H1N1\\_Influenza.html](http://www.ifpma.org/Influenza/index.aspx?004_Novel_H1N1_Influenza.html)

**About the IFPMA:**

The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations is the global non-profit NGO representing the research-based pharmaceutical, biotech and vaccine sectors. Its members comprise 26 leading international companies and 44 national and regional industry associations covering developed and developing countries. The industry's R&D pipeline contains hundreds of new medicines and vaccines being developed to address global disease threats, including cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS and malaria. The IFPMA Clinical Trials Portal ([www.ifpma.org/ClinicalTrials](http://www.ifpma.org/ClinicalTrials)), the IFPMA's Ethical Promotion online resource ([www.ifpma.org/EthicalPromotion](http://www.ifpma.org/EthicalPromotion)) and its Developing World Health Partnerships information ([www.ifpma.org/HealthPartnerships](http://www.ifpma.org/HealthPartnerships)) help make the industry's activities more transparent. The IFPMA strengthens patient safety by improving risk assessment of medicines and combating their counterfeiting. It also provides the secretariat for the International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH).

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