FDA Approves H1N1 Vaccine

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The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved vaccines from four pharmaceutical companies for the H1N1 virus (swine flu), Reuters reports. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said on September 15 that all Americans who want a vaccine will get one.

“There will be vaccines for everyone,” Sebelius said at a hearing of the U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee. The FDA approved H1N1 vaccines from Sanofi-Aventis SA, CSL Ltd., Medimmune and Novartis AG. According to the article, GlaxoSmithKline is also preparing an H1N1 vaccine for FDA approval.

While people living with HIV—especially those with low CD4 counts—are believed to face an increased risk of serious flu-related symptoms, there is no evidence that they are more likely to become severely ill if exposed to H1N1 compared with the general population.

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