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## **Respiratory Protection Program Guidance**

Abstract: DOH issues DAL regarding respiratory protection program related to H1N1 influenza virus.

The Department of Health (DOH) has contracted with the New York State Occupational Health Clinic Network (OHCN) to provide assistance for nursing homes in developing respiratory protection programs. The Department will be collecting specific nursing home information from providers to identify technical assistance needs. OHCN, a network of 11 clinics located across New York, will work with nursing home providers to address identified needs. The expectation is that after the provider works with OHCN they will develop a written respiratory protection plan (including addressing indications for and use of respirators) and staff training programs. OHCN will be available to provide medical evaluation and fit testing services if needed. Providers should access the Health Provider Network (HPN) for this *Dear Administrator Letter* (DAL) and routinely to stay up-to-date regarding activities related to H1N1.

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