



Influenza vaccine supply for the 2006/7 season: Vaccine manufacturers will match flu vaccine demand

In June 2006, the European Vaccine Manufacturers (EVM) issued a statement alerting public health authorities of possible delays in their flu production for the flu season 2006/7 (http://www.evm-vaccines.org/pdfs/evm_statement_flu_supply_2006.pdf).

EVM has conducted an internal survey to check whether manufacturers could meet timely and in quantities the flu doses requested by public health authorities in order to complete their vaccination programmes.

According to the survey and comparing the estimated total number of flu vaccines doses to be delivered in 2006 and the estimated total demand, we can conclude that vaccine manufacturers will meet the higher bound demand for the 2006/7 flu season.

It has also been confirmed that the first shipment of the flu vaccines doses for the 2006/7 season started with fewer doses approximately at the same time as the previous flu season but globally speaking, most of the shipments will take place with an average of 2-3 weeks later than the previous year. The last shipment is foreseen to take place at the end of the year.