

## **HIDA Attends CDC, Division of Strategic National Stockpile Meeting**

On Wednesday, March 24, 2010, HIDA staff attended a meeting hosted by the Centers for Disease Control, Division of Strategic National Stockpile (CDC/DSNS) to evaluate and review the CDC's Commercial Supply Chain Dashboard and its use during the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic Influenza Emergency. The CDC/DSNS launched the Commercial Supply Chain Dashboard project in October 2009 as part of an effort to assist the federal government and state public health officials in making more informed decisions concerning the supply of antiviral drugs and respiratory protective devices during the H1N1 event. The goal of the dashboard is to provide public health officials with a snapshot of quantities on-hand in the commercial supply chain and in federal and state stockpiles on what would ultimately be a real-time basis. In addition to better managing the information surrounding the nature of the supply chain, the CDC wants to provide states with a clear trigger on when to release their SNS supplies to providers during a public health emergency.

A host of supply chain partners, including HIDA members Cardinal Health, McKesson, Henry Schein and Owens & Minor, manufacturers, and pharmacies participated in the development of the dashboard by providing individual inventory data/market presence on influenza countermeasures to the CDC. The data was then aggregated and pulled into a separate report to be viewed by individual state and public health officials experiencing shortages and allocations during the H1N1 emergency. According to DSNS officials, the combined information helped provide a more accurate picture on the availability of pandemic supplies throughout the country, while helping states address challenges in product availability during the H1N1 emergency.

A key takeaway from the meeting is that the CDC is looking to improve upon and sustain the dashboard effort by expanding the number of supply chain partners contributing to the initiative. The CDC would also like to utilize the dashboard during the regular flu season. Recognizing the valuable role that HIDA fills as a member of the Department of Homeland Security's Healthcare Sector Coordinating Council and the Association's partnership with CDC and AMA regarding seasonal influenza awareness and education, the DSNS team has reached out to HIDA to build upon these relationships to support the goals of the dashboard. They are interested in increasing visibility around the distribution of influenza/pandemic supplies into the institutional/non-retail setting. As the CDC moves toward new phases of refinement in data collection and presentation with regard to the dashboard, they hope to reengage with HIDA to address how they can best meet state and partner needs. Please contact Amy Michael at [michael@hida.org](mailto:michael@hida.org) or (703) 838-6121 to learn how to get involved with, or for additional information about, the CDC's Commercial Supply Chain Dashboard initiative.