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Editorial Writing
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An old song told of Little Bessie dying in her mother's arms. Today, she'd die in a doctors office waiting for the H1N1 vaccination because healthy nurses and doctors got the first doses.

Millions of sick people go to health care facilities where nurses have a variety of resources to prevent contamination.

Every hospital owns respirators and surgical masks and many sanitation tools. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, respirators fit tightly around the mouth and nose, forcing air through the filter. Surgical masks, though not as effective as respirators, also reduce disease spread.

Every nurse should have their own respirator and surgical masks handed out to every patient that comes in. To go along with the masks, gloves should be worn at all times by nurses.

According to OSHA, health care centers house the highest risk in terms of H1N1 and other flu viruses. They suggest that health care workers wash their hands often, wear gloves and put patients with flu-like symptoms in a separate area than the others.

The Center for Disease Control reports that the H1N1 virus affects young adults more frequently than the regular flu. However, seniors over the age of 55 and young children under the age of 5 have more fatal reactions to H1N1. More than six thousand have been hospitalized and 436 of them died.

According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, H1N1 is a combination of several flu strands and is constantly evolving. The vaccine doctors have today will not be very effective for long. NIOSH is researching H1N1 to establish how it evolves and moves in the hope of finding new ways to avoid further spreading.

Health and Human Services reports scientist develop vaccines by duplicating the virus itself. The average prescription medication takes 10 years to develop before hitting the shelves. Despite the haste in which vaccines are made, people still prefer to get vaccinated than take precautions against contamination.

Many people can't afford the many resources at health care workers disposal. Some people, because of their job or living conditions, are unable to maintain personal hygiene or sanitation. Yet these people will be forced to wait in line behind the health care providers?

According to the CDC, just over 35 million doses of the H1N1 vaccine have been allocated in the United States. But there are over 300 million people registered living in the US. The allocated doses only account for just over 10 percent of the population and yet they wish to waste it on health care workers.

If health care workers can't implement safety measures strong enough to keep themselves from getting sick then who can?

Like the drunk father ignoring Little Bessie's cries, doctors waste medicine on those who need it the least.