

**Tripler Army Medical Center
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Hawaii military flu vaccination program awaits DOD guidance

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HONOLULU-- Local and national media reported on October 5 that Chiron Corporation had notified the Centers for Disease Control that its influenza vaccine, Fluvirin, could not be distributed for the 2004-5 influenza season. This reduces by half the most commonly used inactivated flu vaccine in the United States.

The Department of Defense (DOD) had expected Chiron to provide over half of its flu vaccine stock. DOD officials are now meeting to determine how to distribute its limited supply of influenza vaccine to protect active duty and other beneficiaries. Military medical authorities are awaiting further guidance on prioritizing the administration of limited vaccine supplies. Personnel deploying overseas, however, may still receive their flu shots through their military units.

Information about the Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) flu program will be announced when plans are established. For more information, you may call your primary care clinic or the TAMC immunization clinic at (808) 433-6334. You may also visit the TAMC website at www.tamc.amedd.army.mil. Other information may be found at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services website, www.hhs.gov; and the Center for Disease Control website, www.cdc.gov/flu.



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Comments or suggestions to the [Public Affairs Officer](#)

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