

CDC says October soonest for swine flu shots

May 28 2009, By MIKE STOBBE , AP Medical Writer

(AP) -- A U.S. health official said a swine flu vaccine could be available as early as October, but only if vaccine production and testing run smoothly this summer.

Dr. Anne Schuchat (Shook-it) of the U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) said the agency began shipping virus samples to manufacturers in the past several days. The government will have to review the safety and effectiveness of what's produced, and decide if a vaccination campaign is warranted. October is about the time seasonal [flu vaccine](#) campaigns generally get rolling.

CDC officials reported more than 8,500 probable and confirmed cases in the U.S., including 12 deaths and more than 500 hospitalizations.

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