



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **H1N1 clinic sites announced**

The Kane County Health Department is announcing that it will open public clinics beginning Oct. 26 to administer the H1N1 vaccine. In addition, nearly 200 private providers in Kane County—doctor's offices, clinics and pharmacies—also have submitted orders for the H1N1 vaccine, which will make it available to residents at multiple locations throughout the county.

The Kane County Health Department will conduct nine public clinics to dispense H1N1 flu vaccine over the course of three successive Monday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Oct. 26

East Aurora High School, 500 Tomcat Lane, Aurora

St. Charles North High School, 255 Red Gate Road, St. Charles

Larkin High School, 1475 Larkin Ave., Elgin

Nov. 2

Dundee Crown High School, 1500 Kings Road, Carpentersville

Central High School, 44W625 Plato Road, Burlington

Illinois Math and Science Academy, 1500 W. Sullivan Road, Aurora

Nov. 9

Hampshire High School, 1600 Big Timber Road, Hampshire

Mooseheart, Route 31, between North Aurora and Batavia

(Third site to be determined)

(MORE)

The Health Department also is planning to open two Saturday clinics, on Nov. 21 and Dec. 5, at a location yet to be determined. The Department submitted an order for 64,000 doses of the vaccine, however we likely will not receive it all one shipment, nor is there a guarantee that we will get all that was ordered.

“I want to personally extend my deep appreciation to the county’s school districts and police and fire departments from the municipalities that have helped plan this massive undertaking. I also want to acknowledge the volunteers from the schools of nursing at Aurora University, Waubensee Community College, Elgin Community College and Northern Illinois University, without whose help this would not be possible.”

Kane County residents who fall into one or more of the following priority groups will be eligible to receive H1N1 shots at these community clinics. The five target groups for the H1N1 vaccine are

- pregnant women,
- persons who live with or provide care for infants aged <6 months (e.g., parents, siblings, and daycare providers),
- health-care and emergency medical services personnel
- persons aged 6 months--24 years
- persons aged 25--64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications

The Health Department will make the vaccine available free of charge at the community clinics

“We know that this vaccine is both safe and effective,” Kuehnert said, Clinical trials conducted by the National Institutes of Health and the vaccine manufacturers have shown that the new H1N1 vaccine is both safe and effective. The FDA has licensed it. There have been no safety shortcuts. It is produced exactly the same way the seasonal flu vaccine is produced every year. It is simply a new virus strain.

Once the demand for vaccine for these target groups has been met, the Health Department and local providers will begin vaccinating everyone from ages 25 through 64 years. Current studies indicate the risk for infection among persons age 65 or older is less than the risk for younger age groups. Therefore, as vaccine supply and demand for vaccine among younger age groups is being met, programs and providers should offer vaccination to people over the age of 65.

CDC recommends that children nine and younger receive two doses of 2009 H1N1 vaccine, which should be separated by one month. Infants younger than 6 months are too young to get the 2009 H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines. The health department recommends that you contact your physician if you have any questions about whether you or a member of your family should receive the vaccine.

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