

Delaware General Health District

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NEWS RELEASE

H1N1 IMMUNIZATION CLINIC SUNDAY AT OLENTANGY LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DELAWARE, Oh., Nov. 12, 2009 – The Delaware General Health District’s next large-scale H1N1 flu immunization clinic for high-risk groups will be Sunday, Nov. 15, from noon to 4 p.m. at Olentangy Liberty High School, 3584 Home Road, Powell. All clients must enter the school via the Sawmill Parkway entrance.

Another H1N1 clinic -- for pregnant women and parents of infants under 6 months old only -- will be Thursday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Health District offices in downtown Delaware.

Sunday’s clinic at Liberty High School is for the following groups at high risk for H1N1 flu only:

- Pregnant women
- Children aged 6 months to 18 years
- People who live with or care for babies under 6 months old
- Health care providers in direct patient care (please bring an ID to prove employment)

Both injectable vaccine and FluMist nasal spray will be available. Persons wanting the H1N1 vaccine are encouraged to preregister online via the link on www.delawarehealth.org and bring their preregistration form to the clinic.

In light of heavy demand for H1N1 immunizations, clients might have to wait up to a few hours in cool weather with rain possible, and should prepare accordingly. A live webcam view of the waiting line – a new service that debuted at our Nov. 10 clinic -- will be available on www.delawarehealth.org to help residents decide when to arrive. The Health District suggests

dressing comfortably and bringing drinking water, lawn chairs, something to read, and activities to keep children occupied. Rest rooms will be available.

The Health District administration wants to thank the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, Delaware City Police, and other local law enforcement agencies for their help in planning the large-scale H1N1 clinics. Law officers have been instrumental in planning all DGHD H1N1 immunization clinics and managing traffic flow, and have worked diligently to reduce waiting times and ensure clients' safety.

The Thursday, Nov. 19, clinic is **ONLY** for pregnant women and parents of infants under 6 months old. It will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the basement of the Health District office at 1 W. Winter St. in historic downtown Delaware.

The Health District urges people wanting the H1N1 vaccine to be aware of the following important information:

- Both upcoming clinics will be only for people in the high-risk groups described above. More clinics will be scheduled later once more H1N1 vaccine is received. Persons not in the high-risk categories will be offered the vaccine at later clinics after high-risk persons get their opportunity.
- Parents or legal guardians who want others (grandparents, for example) to bring their children to immunization clinics must phone the Health District at 740-203-2040 during weekday business hours **before** the day of the clinic. Parents or guardians must speak with a nurse, answer health assessment questions, sign consent forms, and review vaccine information statements before their children can receive vaccine. This is required regardless of whether the children are preregistered online. Children arriving at clinics without the above steps being followed will not be able to get the vaccine.
- Pregnant women will not be required to show documentation of their pregnancy.
- The H1N1 vaccine and parking on the fairgrounds will be free, and no payments of any kind will be required.
- The clinic will have Flu Mist nasal spray vaccine and injectable vaccines. All healthy persons aged 2 to 49 can get Flu Mist vaccine except for breastfeeding mothers and persons allergic to eggs or gelatin.

- The online preregistration system operated by the Ohio Department of Health is not issuing e-mail notifications to individuals about upcoming clinics at present. Delaware County residents are encouraged to log on to www.delawarehealth.org for information on upcoming local clinics, and to not rely on e-mail notification at this time.

Sunday's clinic will be conducted by the Delaware General Health District staff with assistance from Olentangy Local Schools, the Delaware County Emergency Medical Service, Delaware County Medical Reserve Corps volunteers, the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, Delaware City Police, and community volunteers.