



WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

For Immediate Release

August 20, 2009

News media calls to Vic Reato: Media Services Manager at (815)727-5088.

WILL COUNTY SEASONAL FLU CLINICS SET: 2009

JOLIET – For more than three decades, the Will County Health Department has partnered with the Senior Services Center of Will County to provide an annual series of walk-in community flu shot clinics designed specifically for persons 18 years and older.

The 2009 clinic series will immunize area residents against seasonal influenza, not the novel H1N1 Swine Flu. A vaccine for the novel H1N1 Swine Flu virus is still undergoing clinical trials and will not be available until later this year.

In the meantime, local, state and federal health officials are urging that Americans consult their health care providers regarding the advisability of a seasonal flu shot. The National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that at least 85 percent of all Americans would derive significant benefit from an annual dose of seasonal flu vaccine.

The 2009 Will County clinic series features two walk-in community events in Joliet. Clinics will also be available in Frankfort, Lockport, New Lenox, Plainfield, Romeoville, and Wilmington.

For a prerecorded list of 2009 seasonal flu shot clinics, telephone 815-740-7632. Clinic locations and times are also available at www.willcountyhealth.org. You may also telephone specific questions to 815-740-8143 during regular weekly business hours.

Seasonal influenza is estimated to impact approximately a quarter of the U.S. population annually. Complications resulting from seasonal influenza produce approximately 250,000 U.S. hospitalizations and 36,000 fatalities every year. Unlike the novel H1N1 Swine Flu, seasonal influenza most often impacts persons 65 years and older.

Other population groups also face an increased risk from seasonal influenza complications, including pregnant women and persons with underlying chronic medical conditions. Persons with suppressed immunity and residents of long-term care facilities may also face special seasonal flu risks.

The annual supply of influenza vaccine and the timing of its distribution cannot be guaranteed in any year. During the 2008-2009 influenza season, 113 million doses of influenza vaccine were distributed in the U.S. Approximately 130 million doses of seasonal influenza vaccine are expected to be distributed for 2009-2010.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Main Office
501 Ella Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433
Ph 815.727.8480
Fx 815.727.8484

Community Health Center
1106 Neal Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433
Ph 815.727.8670
Fx 815.727.8852

Eastern Branch Office
44 Towncenter
University Park, IL 60466
Ph 815.727.8803
Ph 708.534.0800
Fx 708.534.3455

Northern Branch Office
323 Quadrangle Dr.
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Ph 630.679.7000
Fx 630.679.7015

While a flu shot remains the best way to protect yourself against seasonal influenza, frequent hand washing with soap and warm water can also help to prevent disease transmission. Persons are also urged to cover their coughs with a tissue (not their bare hands), and to stay at home when not feeling well.

For more information about influenza, visit www.cdc.gov/flu. For general information about seasonal flu, or the novel H1N1 flu virus, telephone the Health Department's Immunization Information Line at 815-774-7360.

2009 Flu Shot Clinics

Immunizations will be administered by the Will County Health Department in cooperation with the Senior Services Center of Will County. Influenza Vaccine is recommended for all persons who want to reduce their risk of becoming ill with influenza or of transmitting to others. Shots will be given to adults 18 and older. Persons 50 and older, people with chronic medical problems that are at risk of complications to the flu, healthcare personnel, pregnant women, and contacts of those who are at high risk are highly recommended to receive this vaccine. (Pregnant women must have an order from the obstetrician.)

You must reside in Will County.

**Please bring your Medicare card, Social security card and a picture I.D. with you.
The cost is \$25 without your Medicare Card.**

Notice to HMO Carriers: You must go to your primary care physician for your HMO to cover the cost of the Flu Vaccine.

Joliet St. Joseph Park Hall 1500 Raynor Avenue, Joliet Monday, September 21, 2009 1:00-3:00 p.m.	Romeoville Romeoville Recreation Center 900 W Romeo Road Monday, September 28, 2009 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Plainfield Plainfield Police Department 14300 S. Coil Plus Drive Tuesday, September 22, 2009 1:00-3:00 p.m.	Joliet Senior Services Center 251 N. Center Street, Joliet Friday, October 2, 2009 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Wilmington Wilmington VFW Post W. Baltimore Street Tuesday, September 22, 2009 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Frankfort Frankfort Township Hall 11000 W. Lincoln Highway Wednesday, October 7, 2009 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Lockport Lockport American Legion Hall 15052 Archer Avenue Monday, September 28, 2009 9:00-11:00 a.m.	New Lenox New Lenox VFW Post 9545 323 Old Hickory Road Wednesday, October 7, 2009 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Note: You should not be immunized if you are allergic to eggs, affected by Guillain Barre Syndrome, or have a cold or fever. The vaccine virus strains are A/Brisbane (H1N1)-like, A/Brisbane (H3N2)-like and B/Brisbane-like.

If you have any further questions call (815)740-8143.