



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

CONTACT: Deborah Karakesisoglu
Interim Communications Assistant
Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response
301-600-3327
TTY: Use Maryland Relay
DKarakesisoglu@frederickcountyMD.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT CANCELS REMAINING OCTOBER SEASONAL FLU CLINICS

FREDERICK, MD -- Due to the public's overwhelming attendance at flu clinics on Friday, October 16, the Health Department has currently given all of its seasonal flu shot vaccines. No seasonal flu clinics are scheduled at this time. Seasonal flu clinics previously scheduled for October 22, 23, 27 are canceled.

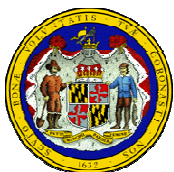
A limited amount of seasonal FluMist® vaccine remains available for FREE for children ages 5-11 years of age. Those interested in receiving the FluMist® for 5-11 year olds can schedule an appointment by calling 301-600-3342. FluMist® is approved for healthy people 2-49 years of age who are not pregnant.

The Health Department has not received all of the seasonal flu vaccine that was ordered this season and is expecting to receive additional seasonal flu vaccine around the end of November. Once received, flu clinics will be planned and announced as soon as possible.

Pandemic H1N1 Flu Vaccine Supply Update:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) explained that it will take longer for sufficient amounts of pandemic H1N1 flu vaccine to be available this season than was initially anticipated. This is due to delays from the manufacturers

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Barbara A. Brookmyer, M.D., M.P.H. ▪ Health Officer

350 Montevue Lane ▪ Frederick, MD 21702

Phone: 301-600-1029 ▪ Fax: 301-600-3111 ▪ MD TTY: 1-800-735-2258





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of the vaccine. The production of vaccine has many steps in the production process intended to ensure safety and quality which can make it hard to give an exact estimate of how much vaccine will be available at a given time. The Health Department does expect to have sufficient supplies of pandemic H1N1 flu vaccine later in the season to eventually offer it to anyone who wants it.

Pandemic H1N1 Injectable Flu Vaccine Update:

The Health Department has begun to receive a very limited amount of the pandemic H1N1 flu shot vaccine and is preparing to offer it to the community at future flu clinics. At this time pandemic H1N1 intranasal flu vaccine is being used for in-school vaccination clinics for children enrolled in pre-K through 5th grades in both private and public schools. Healthcare workers within these schools are also being offered the vaccine.

Flu clinics for pandemic H1N1 flu shot vaccine will be announced as soon as possible. Pandemic H1N1 flu shot vaccine will be offered to those within the priority groups at these upcoming clinics.

Priority Groups for Pandemic H1N1 Flu Vaccine:

- Children and young adults ages 6 months through 24
- Pregnant women
- People age 25-64 with chronic health conditions(such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease or a weakened immune system)
- Individuals in close contact with infants less than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel

For up-to-date information on Health Department flu clinics and vaccine availability you may visit the Health Department's website at www.frederickcountymd.gov/fluclinics or call 301-600-3035.

For additional information on where to find a flu shot this season, please see www.findaflushot.com.

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