



MEDIA RELEASE

UMATILLA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

200 SE Third, Pendleton, Oregon

Immediate Release

Date: October 12, 2009

Time: 8:30 a.m.

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Genni Lehnert, Administrator
Sharon Waldern, Nursing Supervisor
Sherena Clements, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

H1N1 flu shot clinics planned throughout Umatilla County

The H1N1 vaccine has arrived in Umatilla County, but don't roll up your sleeves just yet. "The initial shipments have been comprised of mostly nasal vaccine and is available in very limited quantities, but there is NO shortage." said Genni Lehnert, Umatilla County Public Health Administrator.

Public Health officials have narrowed down dates to hold H1N1 mass vaccination clinics in Umatilla County as follows:

Hermiston:	November 21 st	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Hermiston High School Commons
Milton Freewater:	December 1 st	2 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Community Room
Pendleton:	December 19 th	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Pendleton High School Commons

For those that are unable to make any of the above mention mass vaccination dates the health department will be open the following dates for exclusive H1N1 vaccinations.

December 28 th & 29 th	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Health Department	200 SE 3 rd St	Pendleton
December 30 th & 31 st	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Health Department	435 E. Newport St.	Hermiston

"This is clearly the most ambitious influenza vaccination program ever mounted in the United States or anywhere in the world, we must consider all planning aspects to best protect Umatilla County residents." said Sherena Clements, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Umatilla County Public Health.

Vaccine will also be shared with several public health partners as the county receives them. Individuals are encouraged to contact their health care provider to determine if they have H1N1 vaccine available. Umatilla County health department is urging residents to be patient and to understand that the H1N1 flu vaccine should first be given to those if the highest risk groups, which include:

- Those 6 months old through 24 years old,

- Pregnant women,
- Household contacts of those younger than 6 months old,
- Health-care and emergency service professionals, and
- Those 25 to 64 years old with chronic health disorders.

"I do want people to feel some sense of urgency about getting vaccinated. I think it's important," said Lehnert. There are some very important precautionary measures that residents can take to protect themselves and the people around them:

1. Protect yourself and others by washing your hands often;
2. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or shirt sleeve, not your hand, when coughing or sneezing and discard tissue immediately in a waste container.
3. If you are ill stay home and avoid exposing others to your illness. Do contact your doctor if you have any concerns.

CDC website	www.cdc.gov
State of Oregon	www.oregon.flu.gov
Oregon State Flu Hotline	1-800-978-3040
Oregon State Flu e-mail	flu.help@state.or.us

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