



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KILL DATE: (October 30, 2009)

Fall Influenza Vaccination Planning

HOWELL, Michigan (September 15, 2009) (Livingston County Department of Public Health)

A Steering Committee consisting of Livingston County Department of Public Health, St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital, Livingston County EMS, Red Cross and Emergency Management has been meeting to develop a strategy to administer seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccines to county residents this fall and winter.

CDC, State and local Public Health officials stress the importance of everyone receiving a seasonal flu vaccination to help protect residents from seasonal influenza with special focus on those over 50 years or older, young children, pregnant women and those with underlying medical conditions that increase the risk for flu related complications.

Physicians will provide seasonal flu shots to their patients and clinics will be offered at pharmacies, senior centers, etc. Check with your provider for more information.

Livingston County Department of Public Health will be conducting a seasonal flu clinic on September 24 from 10 AM to 4 PM at our office located at 2300 East Grand River.

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The H1N1 vaccine is not anticipated to begin arriving in Livingston County until October.

Vaccine will be distributed to medical providers. The following groups will be targeted to receive the H1N1 vaccine first when it arrives:

- * Pregnant Women
- * Children 6 months of age to 24 years of age
- * Care providers of infants < 6 months of age
- * Health care and Emergency Medical System workers with potential for direct exposure to sick patients
- * People < 65 years of age with underlying medical conditions who are at increased risk for flu related complications

Details concerning the rollout of H1N1 vaccinations are being finalized. Strategies include: flu vaccination clinics; outreach to health care providers, schools and business; and a public information campaign to inform Livingston County residents of the vaccination schedule for H1N1.

For more information, go to www.lchd.org home page and click on either Seasonal or H1N1 Influenza links.

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CONTACT:

Jennifer Lavelle
Livingston County Department of Public Health
(517) 546-9850
jlavelle@co.livingston.mi.us
www.lchd.org