

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Robyn Truitt DrivonInterim County Administrator

Beth Gabor Public Information Officer 625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-8150 • FAX (530) 668-4029 www.yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer (530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

Cold, Wet Weather Expected During Novel H1N1 Vaccine Clinics

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Health Department, in partnership with the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland and Winters, is holdings a series of free Novel H1N1 flu vaccination clinics this week and next (details below). As these clinics coincide with a series of cold, wet winter storms, the Health Department would like to remind participants to prepare accordingly.

Those planning to attend one of the Novel H1N1 vaccination clinics should come prepared to wait, and to wait outdoors. Due to a high demand for the vaccine, public clinics across the region have had long lines. Vaccination clinic lines are mostly outdoors, so participants are encouraged to check the weather forecast prior to attending. Participants are encouraged to dress for cold, wet weather. Since the wait may be several hours, also consider bringing:

- snacks & water
- chairs
- games, toys, books or puzzles to occupy children waiting in line
- stroller and blankets for small children

Because H1N1 vaccine supplies are currently very limited, vaccinations will only be offered to the following priority groups:

- pregnant women
- parents of children under 6 months of age
- children and young people ages 6 months to 24 years

Parents or children who may already be sick will not be able to be vaccinated until they are well again.

"Novel H1N1 vaccine is being distributed throughout California to healthcare providers and local health departments. As of the end of November, only enough has been distributed to vaccinate approximately 18% of the population of California, and the majority of vaccine shipped to Yolo County has gone to healthcare providers. As a result, we are limiting these public vaccination clinics to those at the highest risk," said Dr. Joseph Iser, Yolo County Health Department Director-Health Officer. "I encourage those not in one of these high risk groups, and who already have a healthcare provider, to seek Novel H1N1 vaccine from their provider."

The clinic schedule may change due to vaccine availability or other factors. Before attending a vaccine clinic, check the Yolo County Health Department's Web site: www.yolohealth.org (select: Novel H1N1 Influenza) for updates. The current Novel H1N1 clinic schedule is as follows:

Thursday, December 10, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Woodland Community & Senior Center, Meeting Room 2 2001 East Street, Woodland

Saturday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Harper Junior High School, Multi-Purpose Room 4000 East Covell Boulevard, Davis

Monday, December 14, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Riverbank Elementary School 1100 Carrie Street, West Sacramento

Wednesday, December 16, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Winters Community Center 201 Railroad Avenue, Winters

Parking may be limited at clinic sites so participants are encouraged to plan accordingly. All sites can be accessed via Yolobus. For a complete bus schedule, go to www.yolobus.com.

Vaccinations will only be provided to the high risk groups outlined above on a first come, first served basis. Both traditional injectable vaccine and FluMist (a nasal spray) vaccine will be available, as will preservative-free vaccine reserved for pregnant women. Informational materials about the vaccine will be provided at the clinics in English, Russian, and Spanish and interpreters will be available on site.

To expedite the vaccination process, participants are encouraged to complete, print and bring with them to the clinic the vaccination screening questionnaire which is available online: www.yolobusinesspartners.org/forms.html (select: Medical Screening Assistant)

For more information about Novel H1N1 influenza and future vaccination clinics as they become scheduled, go to www.yolohealth.org (select: Novel H1N1 Influenza) or call (530) 666-8645.

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