



11/30/09

For Immediate Release

Van Wert County Health Department has scheduled the next H1N1 Vaccination Clinic for Thursday December 3rd, 2009. The clinic will be held at the Health Department, 140 Fox Rd. Suite 402 from 9:00 am till 12:00 pm on a walk in basis.

To receive the H1N1 vaccine at this time you must be in the following high risk groups:

- **Pregnant women** because they are at higher risk of complications and can potentially provide protection to infants who cannot be vaccinated.
- **Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age** because infants younger than 6 months are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and cannot be vaccinated. Vaccination of those in close contact with infants less than 6 months old will lessen the chances they will pass H1N1 on to the infants.
- **Health care and emergency medical services personnel** because infections among health care workers have been reported and this can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism among health care professionals could reduce health care system capacity.
- **Children 6 months through 18 years of age** because there have been many cases of pandemic H1N1 flu in children and they are in close contact with one another in school and day care settings, which increases the likelihood of disease spread.
- **Young adults 19 through 24 years of age** because there have been many cases of pandemic H1N1 flu in these healthy young adults and they often live, work and study in close proximity, and they are a frequently mobile population.
- **Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.**

If you do not fall into one of these populations, while you wait for your vaccination, please remember to protect yourself from influenza and other illnesses by continuing to cover your cough, wash your hands, and stay home if you are sick.