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Van Wert County Health Department Urges College Students to Get H1N1 Vaccine

COLUMBUS – College students are at high risk for H1N1 influenza and should be vaccinated against the virus, Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D., said last week.

“I urge all college students to get the H1N1 vaccine over the holiday break or sooner if they have not already received it,” Jackson said. “Because of their age and sometimes close living conditions, students are considered high-risk individuals and are eligible for this vaccine.”

While vaccine provides the greatest protection against H1N1 flu, other measures are also helpful and effective. They include: washing hands frequently, or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available; covering coughs and sneezes with tissue, or coughing or sneezing into sleeves; avoiding touching your eyes, noses and mouths; and staying home when sick and until fever free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication.

In hopes of reaching these students the Van Wert County Health Department will be offering a H1N1 immunization clinic for college students through age 24 on Tuesday December 29th from 1:00 PM till 3:00 PM on a walk in basis. There is no charge for the vaccine. We ask for parents or college students to visit www.vanwertcountyhealth.org and pre-register as soon as possible.

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