



PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR H1N1 VACCINE CLINICS
OFFERED BY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Tucson, Arizona – October 22, 2009 – Given the scarce supply of vaccine, the Pima County Health Department has changed its schedule for H1N1 flu vaccine clinics.

Beginning Monday, October 26, 2009, Health Department H1N1 vaccine clinics will be held on:

- Mondays from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon

All clinics will continue to be held at Tucson Electric Park, 2500 E. Ajo Way.

For the week of October 26, 2009, H1N1 nasal spray vaccine is scheduled to be provided at the vaccine clinics. Priority groups for the H1N1 nasal spray include:

- Healthy young children through young adults aged 2 to 24 years of age
- Healthy household contacts and caregivers, who are less than 50 years old, of children younger than 6 months of age - because younger infants are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and cannot be vaccinated
- Healthy healthcare and emergency medical services personnel - because infections among healthcare workers have been reported and this can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism in this population could reduce healthcare system capacity

At this time, there is an extremely limited supply of injectable H1N1 vaccine available. Priority groups for injectable H1N1 vaccine are:

- Pregnant women - because they are at higher risk of complications and can potentially provide protection to infants who cannot be vaccinated
- Children from 6 months through 18 years of age - because of the many cases of novel H1N1 influenza in children and they are in close contact with each other in school and day care settings, which increases the likelihood of disease spread
- Young adults 19 through 24 years of age - because of the many cases of novel H1N1 influenza in these healthy young adults and they often live, work, and study in close proximity, and they are a frequently mobile population

-More-

- Healthcare workers who have a greater exposure rate to H1N1 influenza
- Caregivers of infants less than 6 months who cannot be vaccinated

Please note that in order to accommodate the new H1N1 vaccine clinic location, all regularly scheduled Health Department immunization clinics will be temporarily suspended. The H1N1 vaccine is free to those receiving the vaccine. No other Health Department immunizations will be available at these specialized clinics.

Please refer to the Health Department's website at www.pimahealth.org or call the Flu Information Line at 243-7800 or 1-866-939-7462. To receive trusted, up-to-date neighborhood public safety, health, and community information directly from our Department by text message and email visit <http://www.pimahealth.org/nixle> and click on enroll. This is a free service.

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