

ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Office Administration
(269) 673-5411
Emergency Preparedness
(269) 686-4580
Personal Health
(269) 673-5413



Communicable Disease
(269) 686-4524
Environmental Health
(269) 673-5415
Health Education
(269) 686-4523

November 20, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you may have heard in the news media, there have been cases of 2009-nH1N1 influenza infections reported in Allegan County and vaccine is being sent to the local health departments and healthcare providers.

Vaccination is the best way to protect your child from this infection. The Allegan Health County Department in cooperation with Allegan Healthcare Group, Inc. is working with your child's school district to offer the 2009-nH1N1 influenza vaccine for CDC's target groups at local school based community clinics.

The next scheduled community off-site clinics will be in Hamilton and Otsego to allow for access from different parts of the county. To schedule an appointment for one of these clinics, call 269-686-4350 from 9:00 am- 6:00 pm, M-F. Before calling, please contact your primary doctor/healthcare provider since he or she might have the 2009-nH1N1 vaccine available. Many primary providers are getting this vaccine directly shipped to them. Additional community clinics will be scheduled as more vaccines become available.

Location	Building	Address	Date	Time	Information
Hamilton Schools	Hamilton Elementary School	3472 Lincoln Hamilton, MI	12/02/09	4:00-9:00pm	By Appointment Target Groups
Otsego Schools	Otsego High School	550 Washington Otsego, MI	12/03/09	4:00-9:00pm	By Appointment Target Groups

These clinics are open to Allegan County Residents who fit within the target groups and are by appointment only. To review these groupings go to <http://www.allegancounty.org> and click under the H1N1 icon.

Bring a list of any known allergies, and any known existing medical conditions for each person. A parent or guardian must be with your child in order to receive the vaccination. There will be no cost to you for this vaccine.

It is important to stress that these appointments will be for the Center for Disease Control & Prevention's target populations ONLY:

- Pregnant women;
- Persons 6 months-24 yrs of age;
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza such as HIV, diabetes, or heart or lung disease (especially asthma).
- Primary caregivers and/or parents of infant less than 6 months of age, and
- Health care workers and emergency medical services personnel who serve these populations.

Directions:

When you arrive at the school for your appointment, follow the directions to park your vehicle.

If you need public transportation, please contact Allegan County Transportation at (269) 673-4229 or 1-877-788-2287 as soon as your appointment is scheduled.

Go to the Registration Section. Once you have finished the screening process, you will go to the community clinic area for vaccination.

There will be attendants and signs at each clinic site to assist you as you go through the process.

Your child's health care provider can answer your questions about the 2009-nH1N1 influenza virus, will be able to give your child the seasonal influenza vaccine, and may be able to give your child the 2009-nH1N1 vaccine. Please contact him or her for specific advice for your child.

For additional information, please visit www.allegancounty.org (click on H1N1 icon) and www.pandemicflu.gov

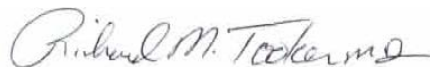
In addition, to being vaccinated and staying home when sick:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze in your elbow.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread that way.

Sincerely,



Rashmi Travis, M.P.H., CHES
Health Officer



Richard M. Tooker, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director