

ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Office Administration
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Emergency Preparedness
(269) 686-4580
Personal Health
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Communicable Disease
(269) 686-4524
Environmental Health
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Health Education
(269) 686-4523

December 2, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As families gathers over the holidays, there are steps people can do to reduce the spread of the influenza. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reminds people that extra precautions can help; people are urged to take these four steps to keep healthy this holiday season.

- Travel or visit others well: These means travel or visit others only when you are feeling well.
- Wash your hands frequently. You can use soap and water or alcohol-based sanitizer or wipes.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with tissues or in your elbow. Use hand sanitizers afterward.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Get both seasonal and 2009 H1N1 vaccinations (if people are in a recommended group). Vaccination is the best way to protect your child from this infection.

Additional community Novel H1N1 vaccination clinics are scheduled to reduce the Holiday Season risk. The Allegan County Health Department continues to work with Allegan Healthcare Group, Inc. to offer the 2009-nH1N1 influenza vaccine to the CDC's target groups in community settings. The next scheduled community off-site clinics will be in the cities of Allegan, Holland, Wayland, and Pullman to allow for access from different parts of the county. To schedule an appointment for one of these clinics, call Allegan Healthcare Group at 269-686-4350 from 9:00 am-6:00 pm, M-F.

Community Novel H1N1 Clinics Schedule

Location	Building	Address	Date	Time	Information
Holland	Central Wesleyan Church	446 West 40 th Holland, MI 49423	12/08/09	3:00-8:00 pm	By Appointment Target Groups
Wayland	Wayland Middle School	701 Wildcat Dr. Wayland, MI 49348	12/10/09	3:00- 8:00 pm	By Appointment Target Groups
Pullman	Pullman Elementary School	5580 South Ave. Pullman, MI 49450	12/15/09	3:00- 8:00 pm	By Appointment Target Groups
Allegan	Allegan High School, Event Center	1560 Lincoln St. Allegan, MI 49010	12/16/09	3:00- 8:00 pm	By Appointment Target Groups

These clinics are open to Allegan County Residents who fit within the target groups and are by appointment only.

The Center for Disease Control & Prevention's Target Groups:

- 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.

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. For additional information go to <http://www.allegancounty.org> and click under the H1N1 icon.

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.

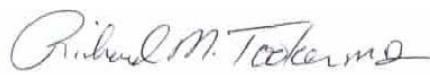
Your child's health care provider can answer your questions about the 2009-nH1N1 influenza virus, will be able to give your child the seasonal influenza vaccine, and may be able to give your child the 2009-nH1N1 vaccine. Please contact him or her for specific advice for your child.

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

Sincerely,



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



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