



WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT WILL COUNTY H1N1 VACCINE CLINICS

An advisory guide to the most common questions expected by the general public

JOLIET -The Will County Health Department (WCHD) will begin dispensing H1N1 flu vaccine beginning on October 28, 2009. The following are answers to frequently asked questions concerning the vaccine clinic program. WCHD encourages the press and news media to distribute this information where possible.

When and Where are the Clinics?

A complete list of the dates and locations are posted on the health department's website at www.WillCountyHealth.org/SwineFlu.

How Did the Health Department Select these Clinic Locations?

All clinic locations coincide with the geographic distribution of confirmed cases of H1N1 flu by the Illinois Department of Public Health earlier this year. Each clinic location is part of a program that identified places throughout the county where the Health Department could distribute medication during a public health event such as this one. The Health Department has worked with these schools for many years to develop a safe and efficient distribution program.

What Kind of Vaccine Are You Dispensing?

The Will County Health Department is dispensing two kinds of H1N1 vaccine: a flu shot that is given with a needle, usually in the arm; and a flu vaccine given via nasal sprayer.

Who Will Administer the Vaccine?

Licensed medical professionals will administer the vaccine at all clinic locations.



Public Health
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What is the Cost of this Vaccine? How Much Will I Pay?

The Will County Health Department is making the H1N1 vaccine available for free to all people who live or work in Will County. There will be no administration fee charged or requested of you.

Who Should Receive this Vaccine?

Because of the limited nationwide supply of H1N1 flu vaccine, the Will County Health Department recommends this vaccine to certain priority groups:

- Pregnant women.
- Anyone who cares for children younger than 6 months of age.
- Young people between the age of 6 months and 24 years of age.
- People younger than 64 years of age with chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease.

I Am Not in this Priority Group. Can I Get the Vaccine?

Everyone who wants to receive the H1N1 vaccine will have the opportunity to do so as the vaccine becomes more readily available. At this time, however, people who are not part of the priority group do not need to receive the H1N1 vaccine.

Is the H1N1 Vaccine Safe?

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) expects the H1N1 flu vaccine to have a similar safety profile as seasonal flu vaccines, which have a good safety track record. Over the years, hundreds of millions of Americans have received seasonal flu vaccines. The most common side effects following flu vaccinations are mild, such as soreness, redness, tenderness or swelling where the shot was administered.

People with additional questions about the vaccine should consult their family doctor.

Where Can I Learn More?

The public can learn more about H1N1 flu, priority groups, and see the complete schedule of community vaccination clinics by visiting www.WillCountyHealth.org/SwineFlu or following the agency on Twitter (@WillCoHealth).