

## **H1N1 Flu - Update**

### **October 27, 2009**

As of October 21, 2009, Santa Clara County had a total of 329 hospitalizations related to the pandemic H1N1 flu, and a total of 10 deaths.

In the last 24 hours, the Public Health Department has received information about our next shipment of the H1N1 vaccine and is expecting 8,800 dosages of the vaccine. This shipment will be a combination of both the nasal spray and shot forms of the vaccine, and it is likely to arrive by the end of the week.

Because this shipment is very limited, it is important to get this shipment of the vaccine to the children and adults at highest risk for the most serious complications. The Public Health Department will be working with local medical providers to get the vaccine to the following:

- Pregnant women;
- People who live with or provide care for infants less than 6 months old;
- Infants and children from 6 months to 2 years of age; and
- Children and adolescents from 2 years old to 18 years old who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for flu related complications;
- Healthcare and emergency medical services workers who provide direct patient care to the list above.

This is a revision of our earlier plans.

### **Starting November 7th**

Because the Public Health Department is expecting additional shipments of the H1N1 vaccine in the next couple of weeks, clinics will be held for the at-risk groups we have outlined earlier.

If you can – please get the H1N1 vaccine from your doctor or regular medical provider. The clinics being held by our public healthcare system will be using their vaccines for high-risk individuals, including those who cannot get their vaccine from their medical provider. To protect as many people in this community as possible, if you can get your vaccine with your own doctor you should do so.

The Public Health Department clinics will be for the following groups,

- Pregnant women;
- People who live with or provide care for infants under six months;
- Healthcare and emergency medical services workers;
- Children and young adults between the ages of 6 months and 24 years; and,
- Adults between the ages of 25 and 64 years who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk for flu-related complications.

The H1N1 vaccine will be free at the Public Health Department clinics.

The vaccine should become more readily available in late November and December. Once the demand for vaccine for people at highest risk has been met, the Public Health Department and local providers can begin providing the vaccine to others. It is important to remember - this is the beginning of a long vaccination effort. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Clinic locations, days, and hours may change based on the vaccine's availability and public demand. Please check [www.sccphd.org](http://www.sccphd.org) for updates to clinic schedules.

<b>Weekends</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Saturday, November 7</b> <b>Sunday, November 15</b> <b>Saturday, November 21</b>	9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Santa Clara County Fairgrounds</b> <b>EXPO HALL</b> 334 Tully Road San José, CA 95111

Vaccination is still the best protection against H1N1. Since a flu pandemic can last for several months and as long as 2 years, many people will continue to be at risk for illness. Getting the vaccine as soon as it becomes available is the best way to protect yourself from H1N1 flu. The H1N1 vaccine provides protection for up to one year after vaccination.