



Where to Get a Flu Shot

This document was revised on October 21, 2009

This information is subject to change often and details will be added as they become available. Check <http://www.flu.delaware.gov> frequently for updates.

Seasonal Influenza

Seasonal Flu Shortage

This year's demand for seasonal influenza vaccine appears to be substantially higher than last year. Most physicians and clinics do not start seeing a large demand for vaccine until late October. This year the cycle has started earlier. We are hearing from physicians that their supply is exhausted and they are having trouble getting more.

Vaccine supply

Manufacturers also stated they expected much earlier delivery of seasonal influenza vaccine than in previous years. Manufacturers now estimate that a total of 114 million doses will be brought to the U.S. market. The difference between planned and the ultimate number of doses varies by manufacturer, but there have been no major reductions in production. Seasonal flu vaccine has been made available earlier this season compared to previous influenza seasons. Because the total number of doses that will be made this year is approximately the same as the number of doses that were actually administered last year, an increase in demand across the country will mean potential shortages in some areas.

Manufacturers are not able to produce more seasonal influenza vaccine for this season because of H1N1 vaccine production because Influenza vaccine takes several months to make. Providers who have more vaccine than they anticipate using, are being encouraged to work with DPH to identify other providers for the vaccine.

Rumors related to the seasonal influenza vaccine supply.

There are many millions of doses yet to be distributed this season. Most will be able to obtain vaccine from their usual provider, but some will have to obtain the vaccine from an alternative provider. People can find seasonal vaccine by checking the American Lung Association web site that identifies clinics that have influenza vaccine available:

One false rumor is that the federal government told the manufacturers to stop making seasonal vaccine earlier than they had planned to switch production to H1N1. Actually, manufacturers are finishing their planned number of seasonal flu doses (to about 97%) and have moved on to their planned H1N1 production. Another false rumor is that the manufacturers switched to H1N1 vaccine production because they will make more money on the new vaccine. There is no evidence to support this rumor.

Individuals should be encouraged to seek seasonal flu vaccine.

There are many millions of doses yet to be distributed this season. Most will be able to obtain vaccine from their usual provider, but some will have to obtain the vaccine from an alternative provider. People can find seasonal vaccine by checking the American Lung Association web site that identifies clinics that have influenza vaccine available: <http://www.flucliniclocator.org/>.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Division of Public Health
Office of Health and Risk Communication

We are still early in flu season and there is still plenty of time for people to get vaccinated to protect them from becoming ill.

Where can you get a shot?

Doctor's Offices (including Federally Qualified Health Centers)

Pediatricians, obstetricians, family practice physicians, and other specialists are offering seasonal influenza vaccinations throughout the state. **A doctor will probably not vaccinate you unless you are already his or her patient.** While initial supplies of seasonal influenza may be low, more is expected in the state.

This list of Federally Qualified Health Centers will offer seasonal influenza vaccination to their patients:

- **Delmarva Rural Ministries**

Kent Community Health Center, 1095 S. Bradford St., Dover, DE 19901
(302) 678-2000

- **Westside Family Healthcare**

Wilmington Location: 1802 W. 4th St., Wilmington, DE
(302) 655-5822

Northeast Location: 908-B East 16th St., Wilmington, DE 19802
(302) 575-1414

Newark Location: 27 Marrows Rd., Newark, DE 19713
(302) 455-0900

- **Henrietta Johnson Medical Center**

Southbridge Location: 601 New Castle Ave., Wilmington, DE
(302) 655-6187

Riverside Location: 700 Lea Blvd., Suite 201, Wilmington, DE 19802
(302) 761-4610

- **La Red Medical Center**

505 W. Market St., Georgetown, DE 19947
(302) 855-1233

Pharmacies

At this time, retail pharmacies are offering seasonal influenza vaccinations. Vaccination through pharmacies is especially intended for people who cannot get vaccinated by their doctors, people without a doctor, and people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age (such as childcare workers). The average cost for a seasonal influenza vaccination through pharmacies is \$25.

Check with your local pharmacy to find out when they will offer vaccinations. Several large chains are offering seasonal vaccine like Walgreens (Happy Harry's), CVS, and Rite Aid among others.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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Delaware Division of Public Health Clinics

Delaware Division of Public Health seasonal flu shot clinics are intended for those who have no healthcare provider or whose insurance does not cover flu and pneumonia vaccinations. If you are covered, please see your healthcare provider.

Because a number of doctor's offices and health care providers have run out of seasonal flu vaccine, the DPH clinics currently being conducted around state to administer seasonal flu must also narrow their priority populations.

For seasonal flu, the temporarily narrowed priority populations are those without insurance who are:

- Pregnant women
- Children 6 months to 18 years of age
- People any age with chronic conditions (lung, heart, diabetes, compromised immune systems)
- People 65 or older

Adults 18 years of age and older are welcome at all sites listed below. Children 6 months of age and older will be seen only at the sites listed for Children. Medicare Part B and donations are accepted. Below is this year's full clinic schedule.

If those in the targeted groups above for seasonal flu vaccines are unable to obtain it from their regular medical provider or a local pharmacy, they may qualify to receive the vaccine from DPH. Please note that this seasonal flu vaccination from DPH will only be available to people without health insurance in the priority populations described above.

If those in the priority groups above for seasonal vaccines are unable to obtain it from their regular medical provider or a local pharmacy, they should call the following DPH offices to determine whether they qualify to receive the vaccine from the DPH.

New Castle County

Hudson State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 255-4555 for age 6 months and above.

Northeast State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 552-3600 for age 8 years old and above

Kent County

James Williams State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 857-5130 for ages 6 months and above

Sussex County

Georgetown State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 856-5213 for ages 6 months and above

Milford State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 424-7150 for ages 6 months and above.



H1N1 Influenza

IMPORTANT: AT THIS TIME, DELAWARE'S DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAS RECEIVED VERY FEW DOSES OF H1N1 VACCINE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. H1N1 VACCINE IS NOT YET AVAILABLE AT MOST OF THE LOCATIONS LISTED IN THIS DOCUMENT.

H1N1 influenza vaccine is being sent to the locations below as it becomes available. Vaccine will be made available by the manufacturers a little at a time over a 3-month period. Therefore, some locations may have the vaccine one day, but not the next.

Is the H1N1 influenza vaccine safe?

We expect the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine to have a similar safety profile as seasonal flu vaccines, which have a very 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 given. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will closely monitor for any signs that the vaccine is causing unexpected adverse events. They will work with state and local health officials to investigate any unusual events.

People who have a severe (life-threatening) allergy to chicken eggs or to any other substance in the vaccine should not be vaccinated.

Where to get Vaccinated

Vaccine is arriving in very limited quantities, and we are targeting this early vaccine to high-risk individuals. By early November, we expect vaccine to be more widely available. At that time, vaccine will be offered to the public at selected locations, which will be posted on the DPH website. Please continue to check back at www.flu.delaware.gov for availability. The following retail locations and public health-sponsored sites will have vaccine in the future.

Because H1N1 influenza vaccine is being provided at no cost to healthcare providers, you should not be charged for the vaccine itself. However, you may be charged by your healthcare provider to administer the vaccination. Your healthcare insurance may cover the cost of administration.

Please note that Delaware's Division of Public Health is distributing H1N1 influenza vaccine based upon requests. A doctor's office, employer, etc. will not receive vaccine if they did not request it.

Doctor's Offices (including Federally Qualified Health Centers)

Pediatricians, obstetricians, family practice physicians, and other specialists who requested H1N1 influenza vaccine from Delaware's Division of Public Health will receive it at various times over the next few months. A doctor will probably not vaccinate you unless you are already his or her patient.



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505 W. Market St., Georgetown, DE 19947
(302) 855-1233

The H1N1 influenza vaccine will first be distributed to obstetricians and pediatricians (in mid-October). Other doctor offices will receive it later.

If you are unable to get vaccinated by your doctor, see below for other ways to be vaccinated.

Public Schools (including Charter Schools)

The Division of Public Health has offered H1N1 influenza vaccination to elementary, middle and high schools beginning in early November. Teams will travel to these schools over several months to provide the vaccinations. Vaccination is voluntary and parents or guardians must grant written permission before students can be vaccinated. Schools will send out a letter informing parents when vaccination will be offered at school.

Elementary school students will get a nasal spray vaccination. Middle school and high school students will get injectable vaccination. Children under 10 years of age will require two vaccinations approximately one month apart.

For information on a specific school, please check with your child's school. Most schools are sending out information this week.

Note: Vaccination in public schools will be for students only.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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Private Schools

The Division of Public Health has offered H1N1 influenza vaccination to those private schools with health centers. Teams will travel to these schools over several months to provide the vaccination.

Private schools that elect not to administer vaccine, and other private schools without health centers can direct students to their private physicians and other locations for the vaccine. Check with the school to determine their arrangements.

Note: Vaccination in private schools will be for students only.

Colleges and Universities

The University of Delaware, Delaware State University, Delaware Technical College (some campuses), and Wesley College have requested H1N1 influenza vaccine for students. Some other colleges and universities will provide vaccination by contracting with local healthcare facilities. Check with your college and university to determine their arrangements.

Colleges and Universities should start getting H1N1 vaccine in late October or early November.

For colleges or universities without health centers, students seek an immunization through their primary healthcare provider.

Pharmacies

At this time, the Division of Public Health (DPH) is working with retail pharmacies to offer H1N1 vaccination to people who are in the groups listed at the beginning of this document.

Offering vaccination through pharmacies is especially intended for people who cannot get vaccinated by their doctors, people without a doctor, and people who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age (such as childcare workers). There may be a small charge for the administration of the vaccine. Insurance companies may cover this cost.

Check with your local pharmacy to find out when they will offer vaccinations. Several large chains will be offering H1N1 vaccine: Walgreens (Happy Harry's); CVS; and Rite Aid among others.

Healthcare Facilities (including Advanced and Basic Life Support Agencies)

Hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities have requested H1N1 influenza vaccine for their healthcare providers and in some cases their patients. **PLEASE NOTE: These facilities are not offering vaccination to the public.**

Vaccination of healthcare providers is strongly encouraged. Check with your employer to see when vaccination will be offered.

Other

The Division of Public Health is also making H1N1 influenza vaccine available to:

- Dover Air Force Base (for military dependents; active personnel will be vaccinated by the DAFB clinic)
- Dialysis centers (for patients and healthcare workers)
- Some large employers (for employees in high-risk categories)



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- Licensed Day Care Center staff

Division of Public Health Clinics

The Division of Public Health will offer H1N1 vaccination at state service centers throughout the state by appointment. Locations are below.

Because of these reduced quantities, the Division has temporarily narrowed the target population for H1N1 vaccines to those most at risk. People in these groups should contact their health care providers about H1N1 vaccine availability:

- Pregnant women
- People who live or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Children 6 months to 4 years of age
- Children 5 through 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions
- Children 6 months to 2 years of age

If you are not in one of the above groups, you cannot be vaccinated now. However, you will be eligible as more vaccine becomes available.

Delaware Division of Public Health flu shot clinics are intended for those in the high priority groups for H1N1 who cannot find the vaccine in the private sector.

Adults 18 years of age and older are welcome at all DPH clinic sites listed below. Children 6 months of age and older will be seen only at the sites listed for children below. Medicare Part B and donations are accepted. Below is this year's full clinic schedule.

Quantity of vaccines will be increasing in coming weeks. By early November, H1N1 vaccines should be more widely available at health care providers, in clinics that will be conducted in schools, and in pharmacies. Delawareans are urged to receive H1N1 vaccine from their regular medical provider, and current vaccination efforts by medical providers should be directed at the narrowed target groups described above. Please note that the H1N1 vaccination from DPH will only be available to the priority populations described above. If those in the priority groups above for H1N1 vaccines are unable to obtain it from their regular medical provider or a local pharmacy, they should call the following DPH offices to determine whether they qualify to receive the vaccine from the DPH.

New Castle County

Hudson State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 255-4555 for age 6 months and above.

Northeast State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 552-3600 for age 8 years old and above

Kent County

James Williams State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 857-5130 for ages 6 months and above

Sussex County



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Milford State Service Center, by appointment only, call (302) 424-7150 for ages 6 months and above.

Signs of Illness

Severe illness warning signs in children are:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing;
- Bluish skin color;
- Not drinking enough fluids;
- Not waking up or not interacting;
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held;
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough; or
- Fever with a rash.

Severe illness warning signs in adults are:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath;
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen;
- Sudden dizziness;
- Confusion; or
- Severe or persistent vomiting.

For more information:

DPH's Immunization Program --1-302-744-1060 (leave a message after duty hours)

Epidemiological surveillance information -- 1-888-295-5156 (24hr)

Office of Health and Risk Communications – (302) 744-4704 (7:30 – 4:30)

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