



Greater Somerset Public Health Partnership

For More Information:

Stephanie Carey, Health Officer
Montgomery Township Health Department
Phone: 908-359-8211 x245

Release Date:

December 29, 2009

H1N1 Vaccination Clinics Scheduled Through January: Open to All

The Greater Somerset Public Health Partnership (GSPHP) will continue to offer the 2009 H1N1 Influenza vaccine to community members, with additional clinics now being added for January. The group has already provided nearly 40 clinics in November and December, vaccinating over 20,000 high-risk children, adolescents and adults.

Because the health departments are now receiving larger vaccine supplies, both in nasal spray and injection forms, vaccination clinics in January will be open to all who wish to be vaccinated. “Because vaccine supplies were limited, our earlier clinics were targeted at those with the highest risk of complications from the H1N1 virus. Now that ample vaccine supply is available, we will continue to target those at high risk, but can also offer to the general public,” said Stephanie Carey, Chair of the Partnership, and Montgomery Township Health Officer.

The group will provide the H1N1 influenza vaccine in both nasal spray format, using Flumist[®], as well as injections. Note that the nasal spray is for healthy children and adults, ages 2 to 49 years of age, without any chronic health conditions. Children with asthma or chronic wheezing should not receive the nasal spray. The injectable form of the H1N1 flu vaccine is available for children and adults from 6 months of age. Note that both forms of the vaccine may not be available at all locations.

To help facilitate the vaccination process, the GSPHP is using a web-based scheduling system, which provides the locations and schedule for the clinics, as well as information regarding which form of the vaccine will be available. In addition, the group established the Greater Somerset H1N1 Shot Line, which individuals can call to schedule an appointment. To schedule an appointment, and to identify which vaccine form will be available, visit <http://www.greatersomersetH1n1.org> or call 908-533-9330. Lastly, up to the minute information can be followed via Twitter, at <http://twitter.com/Somerset H1N1>. Readers are advised to check the scheduling website often, as clinics will continue to be added as vaccine is available.

(Continued)

H1N1 Vaccination Clinics

The *Greater Somerset Public Health Partnership* is a collaborative effort of local health departments within Somerset County, working to provide cost-effective public health services to the greater Somerset area. The Partnership includes the Bernards Township Health Department, Branchburg Health Department, Bridgewater Health Department, Hillsborough Health Department, Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, Montgomery Health Department, Somerset County Health Department and the Somerville Health Department. Collectively, these departments serve all of Somerset County, and parts of Middlesex and Morris Counties.

-- END ---