

Dubois County Health Department
1187 South St. Charles St.
Jasper, IN 47546
812-481-7050
dchealth@psci.net

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 12, 2009

CONTACT: DONNA OEDING, ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

RE: SCHOOL BASED H1N1 VACCINATION CLINICS

The Dubois County Health Department and the Dubois County schools will begin to provide students the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine through school based clinics. Because there is a limited amount of vaccine available, a random drawing was conducted to determine the order the schools will receive the vaccine. The following schools are scheduled for the week of November 16, 2009:

November 17: Ferdinand Elementary and Holy Family School
November 18: Holland Elementary and Precious Blood School
November 19: Huntingburg Elementary

As vaccine becomes available, additional schools will be scheduled. Parents will be notified approximately 2 days before the clinic is scheduled in their children's school.

At this time, the vaccine utilized in the school based clinics will be the injectable form.

Parental **written consent must be given** prior to any vaccination. Please notify the school nurse if a consent form is needed or the form may be downloaded from the school's website. No written notification concerning any change of consent for the H1N1 vaccine will be accepted on the day of the clinic. The parent or guardian is responsible for providing written notice to the teacher of any change.

If the child has received the H1N1 vaccine at a provider or clinic, the parent must provide written documentation to the school nurse.

Two (2) doses of vaccine will be required for children 9 years and younger. The doses must be separated by a minimum of 28 days. Another consent form will be required for the second dose. The H1N1 vaccine will be provided at no charge at the school based clinics. Parents are welcome to accompany their child to the school based clinic. Only students will be able to receive the vaccine at this time – **no parents or siblings**.

At this time, there is no H1N1 vaccine available at the Health Department office. It is planned to continue to allocate the available vaccine to the schools and health care providers for distribution to the following priority groups:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Health care workers and emergency medical service personnel
- People between 6 months and 24 years old
- People ages 25 through 64 years of age who have chronic illnesses or compromised immune systems

Over time, there will be adequate supplies of vaccine available for everyone. Additional community based clinics will be held when vaccine becomes available.