



Genesee County Health Department

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<http://www.gchd.us>

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 9, 2009 KILL DATE: October 23, 2009

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Seasonal Flu Vaccine Clinic Is Here

The Genesee County Health Department is now offering seasonal flu vaccine to clients age 6 months and older during regular immunization clinic hours. There will be a \$28.00 charge. Clients with Medicare Part B, Medicaid, or Commercial Health Plus must bring their card to receive flu vaccine at no cost.

Vaccinations are recommended for anyone who wants to decrease their risk of contracting influenza. Immunization is particularly important for people over age 50, those with chronic illnesses (such as heart disease, lung disease, kidney disease, or diabetes), pregnant women, and children under 5 years old because they are at highest risk for complications of flu. Those who are in close contact with high-risk people, especially health care workers, people who share the same household, and caregivers, are also urged to get their flu vaccines.

The seasonal flu vaccine will not protect you from the Novel H1N1 flu strain. Novel H1N1 flu vaccine clinics will be announced at a later time. Seasonal Influenza is a serious disease, which can infect people of any age. In an average year, seasonal flu causes 36,000 deaths (mostly among those aged 65 years or older) and [more than 226,000 hospitalizations](#) in the United States. The "flu season" in the United States is usually from November through April each year.

The seasonal flu shot combined with proper hand washing, appropriate cough and sneeze methods is the best way to decrease your risk of getting the flu. For further information regarding the flu vaccine, please contact the Genesee County Health Department, (810) 237-4540 or visit our web site at www.gchd.us.

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